

# Galveston Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure 1200.01 Protective Clothing

**Fire Chief** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Protective Clothing**

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure is to ensure that all personnel understand and conform to Personal protective Equipment (PPE) requirements as prescribed by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection. These requirements are in place to ensure firefighter safety. The Texas Commission on Fire Protection, as authorized by the Texas Government Code 417.021, created Section 435.1 in the "Standards Manual" which specifically addresses PPE in accordance with NFPA 1851 (2008). This article is available at the Commission web site for review.

### **Use of P.P.E.**

All Personnel will be issued Helmets, Hoods, Coats, Gloves, Pants and Boots. Personnel are required to be familiar with Article 300.07 Fire fighting PPE. **Personnel will not be allowed to use any PPE that is not issued by GFD.** Personnel working within an IDLH environment must have full PPE including SCBA on and in use. When working in areas where there are risks of injury, personnel shall wear the appropriate PPE (i.e.. Vehicle accidents, grass fires, electrical emergencies, hazardous material incidents, medical calls, confined space incidents, training evolutions, operating in or near roadways etc). Once the IDLH and other associated risks are eliminated, the Incident Commander may adjust the PPE requirements.

While responding and operating on emergency scenes, the Incident Commander will determine the appropriate level of PPE for all personnel on scene. Personnel responding from the station shall don the appropriate level of PPE prior to the vehicle leaving the station. If dispatched to an alarm while in a moving vehicle, the Company officer shall determine if that vehicle will stop while personnel are donning their PPE or if this will be done upon arrival on scene.

### **Care, Inspection & Cleaning**

Personnel shall maintain their assigned PPE. Each article is assigned a GFD tracking # and personnel shall not put their name on any PPE except their hoods and gloves. They may write their name inside their hoods and gloves. The only stickers allowed on helmets will be the users *last name*, which may be placed on the left rear of the helmet under the reflective tetrahedron and they may place a *stick on #* for their assigned station on the right rear tetrahedron. At the beginning of each shift and after each use, personnel will be

responsible for inspecting his or her own PPE for any damage that may have occurred. If damage is found or personnel have a question regarding their PPE they should immediately notify their Company Officer. The Company Officer shall inspect the PPE and notify the On Duty Safety Officer if replacement PPE is needed.

At the beginning of each month, the Shift Safety Officer shall inspect all members' PPE. Any damaged PPE or PPE in need of repair, will be replaced and repaired (if possible) as soon as possible.

The PPE will be cleaned according to NFPA 1851 (2008) and TCFP regulations.