



Rogers Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures

Policy Title:	Protective Clothing		
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PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure all members of the RFD wear appropriate protective clothing to afford complete protection against all foreseeable hazards.

DEFINITIONS

The RFD defines the following protective equipment ensembles as:

- Full protective structural clothing: complete PPE ensemble that includes a helmet with eye protection, flashover hood, bunker coat, bunker pants, structural boots, appropriate protective gloves, and SCBA with integrated pass. Ensemble compliant to NFPA 1971, 1981, 1982
- Full protective wildland clothing: complete PPE ensemble that includes a helmet with eye protection, wildland protective coat and trousers, boots, appropriate protective gloves and footwear. Ensemble compliant to NFPA 1977.
- Full protective technical rescue clothing: complete PPE ensemble that includes appropriate helmet and eye protection, rescue protective coat, rescue protective trousers, appropriate gloves and footwear. Ensemble compliant to NFPA 1951.
- Full protective surface water protective clothing: complete PPE ensemble that includes an appropriate helmet and eye protection, protective wet or dry suit, appropriate gloves, footwear, and personal flotation device. Ensemble compliant to NFPA 1952.
- Full vapor protective ensemble: complete PPE ensemble that includes an appropriate helmet and eye protection, appropriate hazardous material encapsulation suit, appropriate gloves and footwear, and SCBA with integrated pass. Ensemble compliant to NFPA 1991, 1981, 1982 when applicable.
- Full liquid splash protective ensemble: complete PPE ensemble that includes adequate head, eye, and airway protection, appropriate liquid

splash protection suit, appropriate gloves and footwear. Ensemble compliant to NFPA 1992, 1994 when applicable.

POLICY

It is the policy of the City of Rogers Fire Department that full protective structure clothing shall be worn during the following incidents:

- A. All structural fires
- B. Vehicle and transportation vehicle fires
- C. Fires involving trash, waste receptacles, and other noxious agents
- D. Fire alarm investigations
- E. Vehicle extrication activities (minus SCBA)
- F. Hazardous materials incidents including fuel spills and gas leaks

When responding from quarters, all employees shall dress accordingly prior to response. The driver/operator of fire apparatus is not required to don PPE prior to response. Helmets shall not be worn while responding.

1. While fighting grass or wildland fires, firefighters shall exercise discretion as to the level of protective clothing appropriate. The options for personnel are:
 - A. Full protective wildland clothing (if issued and available)
 - B. Full protective structural clothing, SCBA optional
 - C. Bunker pants may be worn with structure boots (when conditions permit)
 - D. Bunker coat with Nomex station pants and appropriate footwear
2. While performing a technical rescue, firefighters shall exercise discretion as to the level of protective clothing and appropriate airway protection.. The options for personnel are:
 - A. Full protective rescue clothing (if issued and available)
 - i. Special operations personnel shall exercise discretion as to the level of protective clothing appropriate.
 - B. Full protective surface water protective clothing
 - i. Special operations personnel shall exercise discretion as to the level of protective clothing appropriate.
 - C. Full protective structural clothing
 - i. Exclusion: structural clothing shall not be worn in immediate proximity of water during surface water rescues
 - D. SCBA when appropriate
3. While mitigating hazardous materials, CBRN, special operations personnel shall exercise discretion as to the level of protective clothing and appropriate airway protection. The options for personnel are:

- A. Vapor protection suit
- B. Vapor protection suit with flash fire protection
- C. Liquid splash protection suit
- D. Full protective structural clothing
- E. Duty clothing

The incident commander shall have final authority for determining the appropriate level of protective equipment. It is paramount to continually recognize the limitations of all pieces of protective equipment as well as to continually evaluate when levels of protection change to allow for lesser protection, or where more protection is required.

4. Full protective structural clothing can become contaminated with material that may be hazardous to the health of the public. Therefore, this clothing should not be worn to medical emergencies or other incidents that might accidentally cause secondary contamination of a citizen's home or place of work. Firefighters should also not use bunker gear as an alternative to a normal work uniform while grocery shopping or performing other non-emergency activities.