

City of Belleville Fire Department

Number: 3008

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Belleville Fire Department to provide a Fire Fighting Helmet that allows rapid adjustments of the headband to accommodate the specific needs of a Fire Fighter who is exposed to the hazards of head injury in Structural firefighting

Date S.O.G. Comes Into Effect: December 19, 2004

Date S.O.G. Revised: May 2, 2017

Date Committee Approved S.O.G.: October 19, 2004

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GUIDELINE

1:00 Purpose:

1:01 To ensure the safety of all personnel by wearing proper fitting firefighting helmets to protect against heat, impact and reduce wearer fatigue.

2:00 Procedures:

2:01 Only those firefighting helmets issued and approved by the Belleville Fire Department shall be worn. These firefighting helmets shall meet the requirements of NFPA 1971 "Standard on Protective Ensemble for Structural Fire Fighting". As well, the firefighting helmet shall be fitted properly in accordance with NFPA 1972 (part 2.5.1) which states "the helmet must be properly adjusted and secured in place...failure to comply with these instructions may result in serious injury or death". All firefighters shall be trained in the proper care and use of head protective equipment and in the limitations of protection afforded by it.

2:02 Fire Fighting Helmets shall be worn by all personnel:

- a) During firefighting operations or at any other emergency incident where a danger of head injury exists.
- b) While working or visiting locations where the use of head protection is required.
- c) During training exercises where applicable

THIS GUIDELINE IS NOT EXPECTED TO SUBSTITUTE FOR GOOD JUDGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE UNDER UNUSUAL CONDITIONS.

2:03 Fire Fighting Helmets shall be kept clean and maintained as per the manufacturers specifications. Helmet elements should be inspected for the following:

- Soiling and Contamination
- Physical damage to the shell such as cracks, crazing, dents, abrasions and thermal damage to the shell (bubbling, soft spots, warping, discoloration)
- Physical damage to the liner / earflaps such as rips, tears, and cuts
- Thermal damage (charring, burn holes, melting)
- Damaged or missing components of the suspension and retention systems
- Damaged or missing components of the face shield/goggle system, including discoloration, crazing, and scratches to the face shield/goggle lens limiting visibility
- Damaged or missing reflective trim

2:04 Any damaged firefighting helmet shall be tagged with a description of the problem, removed from service and the Captain or Officer in Charge notified. The fire fighter shall be issued a replacement helmet.

3:00 **Scope:**

3:01 It shall be the responsibility of the Captain/ Officer in charge of each shift to ensure that this guideline is explained and followed.

3:02 It shall be the responsibility of **all employees** to understand and adhere to this guideline.

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