

Subject:	CODE OF CONDUCT
Section:	PPG# 2440
Chapter:	Personnel
Effective Date:	7/1/98

POLICY

Code of Conduct

A code of conduct shall be developed and adopted which, in principle, places the priority of concern for providing the highest level of services to the residents of the district and to the staff of the department. Violation of the code of conduct may result in disciplinary action or termination.

In order to provide the highest level of service possible to the fire district, the staff shall adhere to the following code:

1. In matters of general conduct, members shall be governed by the ordinary and reasonable rules of behavior and shall commit no act tending to bring reproach or discredit upon the department or its members.
2. No member shall on or off duty, use the uniform, badge, insignia or prestige of the department for the purpose of personal gain.
3. No member shall lend his/ her name, as a member of the department to any commercial or business enterprise; nor shall they approve or countenance the use of the name and the prestige of the department for any such purpose.
4. No member shall receive or accept a reward, fee or gift from any person for services incident to the performance of duty, except with permission of the chief, assistant chief or other officer of the department.
5. No member shall release or cause to be released any department information, investigation or similar department business without first receiving approval of the chief, assistant chief or in their absence, other department officer.
6. Members are to be courteous and respectful in their dealings with the public.
7. Members shall not permit any non-department personnel to ride on the apparatus without proper approval of the chief, assistant chief or other department officer.
8. All boisterous conduct, “horseplay”, or similar activities, which may result in injury or illness to anyone is forbidden while on duty or in station.
9. No member shall report to work or respond to alarms, drills or meetings under the influence of any intoxicating liquor, illegal chemical substance or opiate.
10. A staff member has the right to use equipment, storage areas, and lockers in the conduct of official duties. Such properties belong to the district and are subject to inspection at all times, with the member present.

11. When operating apparatus, members shall observe speed limits, which are consistent with safety, traffic and road conditions, and the elements of weather. Special care shall be taken when approaching intersections.
12. Firefighters responding to alarms in private vehicles are subject to all Washington State driving laws and regulations and are without authority to exceed speed limits.
13. Uniforms shall only be worn while on duty, traveling to or from duty, or attending the official department business. Uniforms shall not be worn in any drinking establishment unless on official business.
14. When attending outside functions, representatives of the department shall adhere to the code of conduct.
15. A staff member has the right to engage in outside employment while off-duty. However, while on duty the staff member shall not meet and/ or confer with others regarding such outside employment. The use of the telephone is expressly prohibited for use in discussing matters related to outside employment.

REFERENCES

Cross Reference:	Policy 2604	Disciplinary Action and Discharge
	Policy 2830	Volunteers- Disciplinary Action and Termination