

Subject:	DRESS CODE
Section:	PPG# 2442
Chapter:	Personnel
Effective Date:	8/1/06

POLICY

Dress Code

The image of the department is reflected in the services that are rendered, relationships with clients and by the personal appearance of staff. The chief is directed to establish a uniform dress code to be in effect while on duty and/or while engaged in training activities or while engaged in public service activities.

Uniforms

1. Uniforms must be kept neat, pressed, clean and in good condition.
2. Members shall meet the above standards whenever on duty.
3. Shoes shall be kept clean and polished.

Facial Hair

1. Members shall be clean-shaven at all times when on duty.
2. Mustaches may be worn, but must be kept trimmed and conformed to the following provisions:
 - a. Shall be trimmed or groomed so as to leave at least half of the upper-lip visible.
 - b. Shall not extend beyond the natural facial smile creases.
 - c. Shall not extend beyond the bottom of the upper lip line where it meets the lower lip line.
 - d. Goatees shall be trimmed or groomed, shall not exceed 3/4" and shall not interfere with the proper seal of breathing apparatus facemask.

Sideburns

1. Sideburns may extend to the bottom of the ear and shall be squarely cut at the bottom.
2. Sideburns shall be neat in appearance and shall not interfere with the proper seal of breathing apparatus face- mask.

Hair

1. Hair shall be kept neat appearing and shall be of a natural color.
2. Hair shall be trimmed in such a manner so that it does not drop below the middle of the uniform shirt collar while the person is in a standing position.
3. Hair shall not extend beyond the middle of the ear on the sides.
4. Hair of female members shall be kept in a fashion so as not to interfere with the SCBA mask seal.
5. Hair shall be such that it will not interfere with wearing of helmets or face pieces
6. Hairpieces must meet the above standards.

Personnel Hygiene

Members shall keep themselves clean and presentable when on duty. Cologne and perfumes shall not be worn.

Uniform Shirt

The uniform shirt shall be clean, free of stains, rips, tears, and fraying, and shall present a wrinkle free appearance. It shall be tucked in at all times and worn with the collar down. The uniform shirt shall be worn at all times from 0730-1700, except in the following circumstances:

1. During periods of drill
2. During physical exercise time
3. During maintenance activities that may cause damage to the shirt
4. Outside temperature exceeds 75 degrees

Uniform Pants

Uniform pants shall be made of flame retardant material and approved by the chief. Pants shall be free of stains, rips, tears, and fraying, and shall present an ironed appearance. Uniform pants shall be worn at all times except in the following circumstances:

1. During physical exercise
2. When retiring to bed
3. When wearing nomex wildland apparel.

Uniform Coat

Uniform coats shall be dark navy blue (or black for administration) with reflective stripping and appearance as approved by the Chief. Collars of uniform coats shall be worn down.

Coveralls

The chief shall approve coveralls. Coveralls shall be free of stains. Rips, tears, and fraying, and shall present a neat appearance. They may be worn during the following circumstances:

1. During periods of drill
2. During physical exercise time
3. During maintenance activities
4. Coveralls made of flame retardant material and approved by the chief may be worn for responses after 2100 hours.

Uniform Boots

Uniform boots shall be 8” leather with “steel” toe and shall be approved by the chief. Boots shall be speed laced or metal zippered to full height at all times to provide ankle support. They shall be clean and polished to a light sheen.

Uniform boots worn on state fire mobilizations must meet NWCG requirements (see Chief officer for current requirements).

T-Shirts

T- shirts shall be worn at all times. They shall be solid navy blue or solid white (must be white when worn under a white shirt). T- shirts must be crew- neck style and have sleeves. They shall have no marking or emblems other than the official department emblem. T- shirts are acceptable outerwear only during the following circumstances:

1. During periods of drill
2. During physical exercise time
3. During maintenance activities that may cause damage to the uniform shirt
4. When outside temperature exceeds 75 degrees
5. After 1700 hours

When worn as an outer garment, the T- shirts shall be free of stains, rips, tears, and fraying, and shall present a neat appearance.

Sweatshirts

Sweatshirts may be worn as an outer garment only. They may be worn over the uniform shirt during periods of inclement weather. The sweatshirts shall be pullover crew neck or half- zip style only, navy blue in color, and bear the official embroidered department emblem. All sweatshirts must be removed before donning bunker clothes for firefighting duties, unless the sweatshirt is made of 100% cotton. Sweatshirts shall be worn with the collar down.

Shorts

Shorts must be solid navy blue and made of 100% cotton, 100% wool, or a cotton/ wool blend. They should be kept clean at all times. They shall have no marking or emblems other than the official department emblem. Shorts shall only be worn under the following circumstances:

1. During periods of drill when covered by bunker pants
2. During physical exercise time
3. When retiring for bed

Hats

Hats may be worn as a part of the uniform if an official hat with emblem approved by the Chief. Hats must be worn with the bill facing forward.

Socks

Socks must be worn. They must be 100% cotton, 100% wool, or a cotton/ wool blend. They should be kept clean at all times.

Belts/ Buckles

Belts: Must be worn, be black in color, a minimum of one inch to a maximum of one and one half inches in width. They must be free of stains, fading and tears.

Buckles: Shall be either the official department style or brass D-ring style no more than two inches in size. Velcro belts are acceptable if they meet the above requirements.

Jewelry:

Jewelry is acceptable only as follows:

Rings: No more than one ring. (Rings are not recommended and the wearer must accept responsibility for injury if one is worn.)

Earrings: Shall not be worn when on duty or when responding to alarms off duty or at drills. This also includes the use of nose rings and other facial piercings.

Necklace/

Bracelet: Shall not be worn at any time. Exception: Medic Alert Identification.

Badge/ Name Tag

Badge/nametag shall be worn on uniform shirt at all times, and shall be clean with a polished look.

Wearing of uniform apparel off-duty

Uniform apparel and district provided garments included in this policy shall not be worn off duty except in the following circumstances:

1. When the member is involved with an official fire district activity.
2. When responding to an incident while off-duty.

REFERENCES

Reference: NFPA, Station/ Work Uniforms for Fire Fighters, 1985
Edition

PPG 4200.18 Station Work Uniforms for Members