

Bethel Township Fire Department

GENERAL ORDER: 304	SECTION: PPE/Uniforms
SUBJECT: Scene Visibility/Safety	AFFECTS: All Personnel
ADOPTED: 05/01/2016	SUPERSEDES: N/A
REVISED:	

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this general order is to establish procedures to enhance on scene visibility for the safety of EMS and fire personnel, while operating in or near vehicular traffic.

GENERAL ORDER:

Anytime personnel are exposed either to traffic and/or construction equipment they shall wear high-visibility safety apparel (safety vest). This includes operating on, near, or by highways, streets, construction sites, parking lots, etc. The safety vests are not to be worn when personnel are involved in suppression activities, hazardous materials, or when there is obvious threat of fire. Once the fire is extinguished or the threat mitigated, the safety vest shall be donned. Personnel that are on the scene and are not directly exposed to fire, flame, excessive heat, or hazardous materials shall wear a safety vest.

Personnel need to be seen by motorists day and night. Since firefighting protective clothing does not provide enough visibility as required, personnel shall wear the safety vest over protective clothing (bunker coat).

Safety vests are located in each vehicle near each riding seat. These vests are to be fastened properly with the fronts properly secured and fastened.

Compliance with this general order should have no impact on the speed in which activity starts on any emergency scene. Donning of reflective vest or bunker coat is a simple procedure, and could even be done prior to arriving on the scene or quickly thereafter. **DO NOT DRESS IN ROUTE – STAY SEAT BELTED.**