**Purpose:** *The purpose of this policy is to ensure all hazardous contaminants are removed from affected personal protective equipment, tools, and fire apparatus post incident. This policy also sets forth personal decontamination guidelines including washing of skin and personal items post incident to remove contaminants that could have a negative effect on firefighter’s health and well-being.*

**Scope:** This policy applies to all members that participate in firefighting efforts and hazardous material response.

**HAZMAT on scene procedures:**

1. All HAZMAT incident operations shall include an appropriate decontamination line dedicated to responders. If contaminated patients/victims are present a separate decontamination line shall be established for patient decontamination.
2. Any member that enters “Hot Zone” shall proceed through decontamination line before removing protective garments. Decontamination method shall be determined by the Safety Officer/Research Division of incident.
3. All tools and equipment shall also be decontaminated before leaving “Hot Zone.”
4. A list shall be established of all PPE/Tools/Equipment that are beyond the scope of decontamination methods on scene and provided to Command/Finance Division for cost recovery efforts.

**Fire Response on scene procedures (including live fire training burns):**

1. All members participating in firefighting efforts shall thoroughly spray off structural fire gear and SCBA with a garden hose before placing PPE back on apparatus.
2. All tools and equipment utilized at fire scene shall be sprayed off and cleaned before being placed back into service on apparatus.
3. Any PPE/Tools beyond the scope of on scene decontamination shall be reported to apparatus officer before leaving the scene. Equipment shall be thoroughly decontaminated upon return to firehouse.

**Post Structure Fire/Live-Fire Training Burn/HAZMAT Response**

**Personal Decontamination:**

1. Fire apparatus interior shall be swept out and cleaned to remove fire debris.
2. If tools and equipment require additional decontamination it shall be performed upon returning to quarters.
3. All turnout gear (including gloves and nomex) shall be washed per manufacturers recommendations within 24 hours of response. If turnout gear cannot be washed prior to another emergency response, members shall utilize secondary Nomex Hood provided by fire department.
4. Secondary hood shall not be stored in pocket of turnout gear. Hood shall be stored in mask bag or gear locker away from contaminated gear.
5. Personnel shall clean fire helmet including the interior of helmet.
6. SCBA utilized in fire suppression activities shall be cleaned and dried per manufacturer’s recommendations.
7. SCBA face pieces shall be washed per manufacturers recommendations.
8. Members shall wash hands prior to eating/drinking/utilizing tobacco products.
9. Members that participated in firefighting efforts shall take a hot shower lasting at least 15 minutes.
10. Members shall engage in 60 minutes of aerobic fitness (Running, Elliptical, or Stationary Bike) within 24 hours of response to assist in sweating out toxins absorbed by the skin.