



**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
FIRE/EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER**

General Order Number: 08-11	Effective Date: January 2010
Division: Health and Safety	
Chapter: Personal Grooming	
By Order of the Fire Chief: Marc S. Bashoor	Revision Date: N/A

POLICY

This General Order shall establish a standard for personal grooming to enhance the level of safety for all Fire/ EMS Department members and ensure that members' appearance reflects favorably on the Department and Prince George's County.

No attempt has been made to define "styles" of hair. The standards, instead, relate to "safety." Deviation from these standards may detract from the delivery of essential fire protection services and subject firefighters and citizens to unnecessary risk.

Hair grooming regulations shall be adhered to by all members of the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department, both career and volunteer, excluding volunteer members whose duties are strictly administrative and do not respond on any type of emergency apparatus.

DEFINITIONS

N/A

PROCEDURES / RESPONSIBILITIES

Personnel who may have any occasion to wear a self-contained breathing apparatus shall not have facial hair that comes between the sealing surface of the face-piece and the face or that interferes with valve function.

Haircuts

Hair shall be clean, neat, and present a trimmed appearance. The length of the hair shall not be worn below 2/3's of the uniform shirt collar.

Wigs may be worn on duty to cover natural baldness or physical disfiguration caused by accidents or medical procedures. The wig worn shall be clean, neat, and present a trimmed appearance. The length of the hair shall not be worn below 2/3's of the uniform shirt collar.

Hair may be dyed or frosted.

Sideburns

If an individual chooses to wear sideburns, they shall be neatly trimmed and of equal width (no flair) and shall not extend below the corner of the mouth. In addition, the sideburns shall terminate



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in a clean horizontal line with a width and length not to come between the sealing surface of the face-piece and the face or interfere with valve function.

Mustaches

A short and neatly trimmed mustache may be worn, but shall not extend over the upper lip or beyond ½ inch from the corners of the mouth (measured from the corner of the mouth) and shall not come between the sealing surface of the face-piece and the face or interfere with valve function.

Beards and Goatees

Beards and/or goatees are not permitted to be worn by any personnel who may have any occasion to wear a self-contained breathing apparatus. Additionally, all male personnel shall be clean shaven while on duty. Personnel are to comply with General Order 08-17, Respiratory Protection Program.

Compliance

Any deviation from this regulation shall be for assignment purposes only and shall have prior approval of the Fire Chief, upon recommendation of the Appropriate Lieutenant Colonel.

It shall be the responsibility of the career and volunteer officers to enforce this General Order evenly and fairly.

Officers shall take appropriate action to prohibit those members who do not comply with this General Order from responding on emergencies.

REFERENCES

N/A

FORMS / ATTACHMENTS

N/A