

SHELBYVILLE FIRE & RESCUE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES		
	SECTION: Membership SUBJECT: Personal Appearance & Conduct	S.O.P: 102.01
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	Approved By:	Effective Date: December 1, 2012
		Revision Date:

Purpose:

To prescribe a standard of grooming that will lend, in an appropriate manner, to the safety and appearance of the Shelbyville Fire Rescue fire personnel.

Procedure

I. General

1. It must be recognized that personal safety, a proper public image, and use of protective equipment, require that certain guidelines be followed in regard to members hair lengths, beards, mustaches and jewelry.
2. A neat and well-groomed appearance by firefighters is fundamental to the fire service and contributes to building the pride and spirit essential to an effective fire department.
3. Members shall maintain proper personal hygiene.
4. It is the responsibility of each member to take pride in his/her appearance at all times.
5. Firefighting takes place in highly heated, toxic, poorly illuminated, abnormal and unsanitary conditions. With the mask face piece designs currently in use NAS, the National Bureau of Standards, various breathing apparatus manufactures and others have proven that it is impossible to obtain a satisfactory seal on a bearded man. (NFPA 1500 A7.11.8 and OSHA 1910.134)
6. Hair shall be kept clean and well groomed, shall not constitute a safety hazard, and at no time interfere with the use of personal protective equipment.
7. Beards and goatees are prohibited on firefighters who perform interior structural firefighting or any other operation that requires the use of an SCBA. (NFPA 1500 and OSHA 1910.134)
8. Neatly trimmed mustaches and side burns are permitted provided they do not interfere with the use of protective clothing of equipment.
9. The wearing of earrings, ear studs, body jewelry or bracelets or other items that may interfere with the proper use or quick donning of protective clothing or equipment is not permitted while on duty or officially representing the SFD. These items present a snagging hazard, which may injure the firefighter of equipment.
10. Necklaces, pendants, or medallions shall be tucked in under clothing while operating in the capacity of the SFD.
11. Any body piercing or other items that draw attention to the wearer are prohibited while operating in the capacity of the SFD.