

**Stillwater Fire District  
Stillwater, New York**

**Fire District Policy and Procedure**

**Policy Number: 6 of 2010**

**Policy Name: High Visibility Safety Clothing**

**Date Issued: June 16, 2010**

**Effective: June 16, 2010**

**Revised: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Review Date: January 2020**

**I. POLICY**

A. The purpose.

It shall be the policy of the Stillwater Fire District that members of the Fire Department who are working on a public highway be required to don high-visibility clothing in accordance with 23 CFR Part 634.

**II. DEFINITIONS**

A. An open work zone is defined as the area on the highway that remains open for the passage of traffic during an incident attended by the Fire Department personnel.

B. A closed work zone is defined as the area on the highway that is closed to traffic passage during an incident attended by the Fire Department personnel

**III. AUTHORITY**

A. Under Town Law Article 11, sub section 176 (10) "Fire Districts may organize, operate, maintain and equip fire companies...and provide for the removal of members for cause." In addition (11) states that Fire Districts "may adopt rules and regulations governing all fire companies and fire departments in said district and prescribing the duties of the members thereof and enforce discipline...."

**IV. PROCEDURE**

A. All members of the fire department shall have available for use high visibility safety clothing which meets class 2 or 3 ANSI Standard 107-1999 standards.

B. High visibility safety clothing shall be available on all apparatus for all seated positions as recommended by the latest NFPA 1901 standard.

C. All members who will be operating in an open work zone shall don the high visibility safety clothing to include but not limited to safety vests or ANSI compliant Hi-Vis clothing while working on a highway where traffic continues to operate.

D. Fire Police must don high visibility safety vests or garments which comply with the high visibility standards outlined in the referenced ANSI standard when assuming the duties of traffic control at any incident.

- E. The Fire Department Safety Officer and Line Officers or those assuming the position of line officer, shall be responsible for enforcement of the use of the ANSI compliant protective clothing at the scene of highway operations.
- F. Although the Federal standard applies to the use of high visibility safety apparel on rights-of-way which are funded through the Federal aid, the Board of Fire Commissioners is applying the same standard to all open work zones where fire service personnel are in attendance.
- G. High visibility safety clothing shall be inspected at least annually and any unit of clothing found to be damaged or in non-compliance shall be taken out of service and replaced.
- H. Extra care shall be taken when wearing high visibility safety clothing at the scene of a fire since the clothing may not be in compliance with NFPA standards for fire retardant clothing and must be removed.
- I. Extra care needs to be exercised when wearing clothing at the scene of a motor vehicle accident where victim extrication is being performed where there is a danger that the clothing will become an inherent safety risk during these evolutions. If this is the case, it is strongly suggested that if at all possible the work zone be closed to all public traffic immediately adjacent to the operation.
- J. The Fire Chief shall be responsible for the enforcement of this policy.

By Order of Board of Fire Commissioners – Stillwater Fire District

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Chairman Board of Fire Commissioners