



MUKWONAGO FIRE DEPARTMENT
OPERATING PROCEDURES

Roadway Safety		Approved by: Chief Jeffrey R. Stien	
POL #24	Draft Date: 4/28/09	Revision Date: 4/24/12, 04/23/15, 02/24/16	Effective Date: 05/07/12, 4/23/15, 2/24/16

PURPOSE: To establish procedures for maximizing fire fighter and EMS personnel safety when working on all roadways where they are exposed to vehicle traffic and not directly exposed to heat, flame, fire or hazardous materials.

SCOPE: This procedure is to be followed by all officers and members of this department. Authority to deviate from this procedure rests with the Chief or designee who will be responsible for the results of any deviation.

- A. All MFD members will be issued an ANSI reflective vest in compliance with Federal law 23 CFR Part 634 and applicable provisions of the Federal Highway Administration’s Manual on Uniform Traffic Devices (MUTCD).
- B. All members shall write their MFD number on the inside of the vest. It is the responsibility of each member to maintain their vest in good repair. If the vest is in need of a repair or replacement, immediately notify the duty company officer or the Officer in Charge.
- C. Specifically, when the nature of the incident requires the member to work in or near moving traffic, the following personal protective apparel shall be worn;
 - Structural Fire Helmet with chin strap properly donned
 - ANSI 107-compliant Class II vest, Class III Highway Safety garment, or ANSI 207 Public Safety vest
 - Protective Footwear

If a member prefers to wear a structural turnout coat due to inclement weather; i.e. rain, cold, etc., or is required to wear structural turnout gear due to duties assigned at the incident scene, the ANSI highway safety vest must be donned over the turnout coat. Turnout coats are not acceptable as high-visibility highway safety apparel when donned without the ANSI-compliant vest on the outside of the coat.

D. MFD Approved Winter Coat-Self Purchased

- Must meet ANSI 107-compliant Class II vest, Class III Highway Safety garment, or ANSI 207 Public Safety vest
- Can only be used for ambulance requests only on roadway
- Not to be worn when any type of personal protection is needed
- If there is any exposure to bodily fluids then turnout gear and proper PPE must be worn instead of the coat
- This will be strongly enforced by company officers

E. NON-VEST INCIDENTS

Several unique incident types may be encountered where the donning of a highway safety vest may actually increase risk of injury for the fire department member or where wearing of a vest may in fact be otherwise impractical. Under these limited situations, the requirement for donning ANSI-compliant vests by members directly involved in hazard area “Hot Zone” activities is modified.

The exemptions for wearing a highway safety vest applies only to members directly involved in activities within an established “Hot Zone” and only when the “Hot Zone” is protected from the hazards of moving traffic by apparatus blocking, lane closures, etc.

The required ANSI-compliant Highway Safety vest need not be worn when a member is required to;

- Don structural PPE and SCBA to work in close proximity to a source of heat such as during suppression of a vehicle fire,
- Don hazardous material personal protective equipment to avoid potential exposure to chemicals or other contaminants, or
- Don technical rescue PPE and/or equipment for a technical rescue incident such as extrication, high or low-angle rope rescue, swift water rescue, etc.

All members on-scene performing duties or involved at activities other than those listed above are required to don ANSI-compliant vests when working in or near moving traffic.

Members directly involved in source of heat, chemical, or technical rescue activities as listed above who complete their activities within the designated Hot Zone are required to don ANSI-compliant vests once their activities within the Hot Zone are completed or they leave the immediate “hot Zone” area of the incident scene.

- F. Proper apparatus placement will be used to deflect traffic from the working area. Traffic cones will be used to direct traffic.
- G. **Any ambulance request on the interstate an engine will respond to block traffic from the ambulance crew**