


|  | Nokomis Fire Department | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|--------|
| | Date | Directive | Number |
| | April 30, 2019 | #1 | #107 |
| | | Category | |
| | | Administrative Policy Bunker Gear Cleaning | |

INTENT:

Instructions for cleaning bunker gear.

PROCEDURE:

Bunker gear is to be laundered in January and in July each. The Following policies shall apply to laundering of bunker gear.

1. Bunker gear *and gloves* shall be washed only in the commercial machine at Station #41. Exception: Blood borne pathogen contaminated gear.
2. Contaminants should always be hosed off with minimal water pressure at the emergency scene. This will prevent transfer of contaminants to the interior of emergency vehicles and taken back to the Fire Station.
3. Any gear that has become soiled should be cleaned as soon as possible after returning to the station.
4. Any gear that has become grossly contaminated, such as a hazardous materials incident shall be cleaned or disposed of by a method to be determined by the Department Safety Officer.
5. Stains shall be pre-treated only with cleaners provided by the department.
6. Liner shall be separated from outer shells and washed separately. Protective hoods and the cloth inner liner from the helmet shall be washed with the liners.
7. All closures in the gear should be closed before placing them in the washer. This will save wear and tear on the machine and the gear.
8. Use only the dedicated cleaning agent provided by the department to add to the wash cycle. Do not use any other cleaning agents.
9. The washing machine is preset to the correct temperature by pressing #1 for gear as indicated on the machine. **Do not** set the water temperature to hot as it will damage the fibers used in the construction of the gear.
10. **Do not use bleach or bleach products!**
11. Do not store your gear wet. It shall be hung to dry in a well ventilated area out of direct sunlight. It is recommended to be hung on a large plastic hanger.