

# **HIGH VISIBILITY PPE STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE**

**DATE APPROVED: June 2007**

## **I. Scope**

Emergency personnel injuries and deaths caused by accidents involving moving vehicles in the performance of their duty are a serious concern. The purpose of this guideline is to establish minimum standards for proper use of visibility clothing to increase safety.

## **II. General**

- A. When department members' duties and assignments place them in potential exposure to motor vehicle traffic, they shall wear high visibility safety apparel. Examples include, but are not limited to:
  - 1. Establishing landing zones or working around a helicopter.
  - 2. Highway traffic.
  - 3. Motor vehicle accidents.
- B. Turnout gear may not be substituted for high visibility safety apparel.
- C. Apparatus shall be positioned in a manner to shield responders from traffic whenever possible.
- D. In addition to apparatus positioning, warning lights, directional arrows, traffic cones, and flares shall be deployed at the discretion of the Incident Commander to increase visibility.
- E. Company officers are responsible to ensure that their personnel wear vests whenever they are exposed to traffic hazards. All personnel operating at any incident where they may be exposed to traffic hazards are required to wear a high visibility vest.
- F. High visibility vests shall be assigned to all apparatus.