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**Department of Emergency Services  
Fire-EMS Division  
Standard Operating Procedures**

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## General Policies

Subject: Fluorescent Safety Vests  
Revised: 8-21-02  
Section: 237.00

### 237.01 Purpose

To establish Fire-EMS Division policy on the wearing of appropriate safety apparel on emergency incidents.

### 237.02 Policy

- A. In order to provide greater safety and visibility for Ocean City Fire-EMS Division members, issued fluorescent safety vests or other issued reflective materials shall be worn during day and night emergency incidents that occur in or near traffic conditions. Traffic conditions will be defined as any street or road that is open to any type of vehicle traffic. Included in this is any sidewalk or path that is next to any traffic condition. This policy is in accordance with the Town of Ocean City, Maryland Health and Safety Manual, section XI (Health and Safety Programs), subsection R (Personal Protective Equipment, Traffic Protection). Examples include, but are not limited to:
1. medical emergency involving an automobile in a street.
  2. medical emergency involving a person in a street.
  3. re-packing hose lines.
  4. setting up a landing zone for a Medevac.
  5. other situations involving traffic or the need to readily identify emergency responders.
- B. The prescribed safety vests may be of the following types:
1. Issued by Ocean City Fire-EMS Division, fluorescent safety vests with reflective stripes and marked Emergency Services.
  2. Issued by Ocean City Fire-EMS Division, turnout coat that is in acceptable condition determined by the Shift Lieutenant.
  3. Issued by Ocean City Fire-EMS Division, raincoat that is in acceptable condition determined by the Shift Lieutenant.
- C. Safety vests as well as turnout coat and raincoat are part of minimum equipment issued and part of the daily uniform issued and is therefore required to be in accordance with SOP 217.00.

### 237.03 Responsibilities

- A. Company Officers as well as the Fire-EMS Division members are responsible to make sure that they are attired properly to ensure high visibility and identity as a Fire-EMS Division member.
- B. Personnel operating within the Incident Command System and assigned to Command Staff or Sector positions are to be attired in the proper ICS vest and are not required to wear the issued fluorescent safety vest.