

Operating Guideline # 234

Personal Grooming

October 2, 2019



**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the safety of members during training and while performing their duties at emergency incidents; while engaged in operations requiring the use of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA).

**GUIDELINE:**

1. Hair will be worn in a manner or style that will not interfere with personal protective equipment, patient care, or become a hazard.
2. Members will be clean-shaven. Moustaches shall be kept neat and closely trimmed and shall not interfere for the face seal on a self contained breathing apparatus. The general guideline is that moustaches should not extend below the bottom lip. Sideburns shall be kept neatly trimmed and close to the face. They shall not extend below the bottom of the ear. Any other facial hair not described in this section is not permitted.
3. If a department member is not clean shaven, the member shall not wear S.C.B.A. and shall not perform any function where the member may be exposed to a contaminated atmosphere.
4. Visible tattoos are permitted as long as they are not offensive, disruptive or derogatory. Officers may require visible tattoos to be covered during formal department events such as fire prevention.

**RESPONSIBILITY:**

It is the responsibility of all members to adhere to this guideline and of the Officers to enforce the application of this guideline.