



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
AIR NATIONAL GUARD

14 July 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL BASE CIVIL ENGINEERS  
ALL FIRE CHIEFS  
IN TURN

FROM: ANG/CE  
3500 Fetchet Avenue  
Andrews AFB MD 20762-5157

SUBJECT: Permanently Assigning Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

On 27 Jun 03, Major General Fox, the Air Force Civil Engineer, issued a memorandum (same subject as above, see attached) directing that fire fighter Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) be issued to individual fire fighters at their first duty station and when they transfer or perform a Permanent Change of Station (PCS) they take their PPE with them. While on the face of it, this memorandum seems that it would not pose an undue hardship on Air National Guard (ANG) Civil Engineer (CE) units; a closer inspection reveals that the ANG may have some specific issues that need to be addressed. These issues revolve around two of the three methods that a fire fighter might leave an ANG unit.


The first method that a fire fighter might leave an ANG unit would be through separation, either through normal means (retirement, non-retention, end of enlistment) or abnormal means (failure to attend drills, administrative separation, etc.). In the instance of separation from the unit, there should be no problem, as PPE would be pulled back from the individual during out-processing.

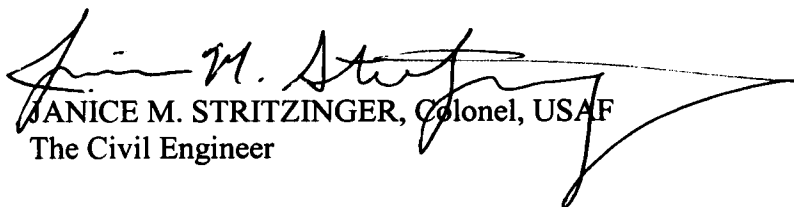
The second method that a fire fighter might leave an ANG unit would be through a transfer to another ANG unit. In this instance it is known that the individual has obtained a position in another ANG unit and is transferring directly from their original unit to the new one. In this instance, it would be appropriate to follow the guidance provided in Major General Fox's memorandum. The PPE issued to the fire fighter on an AF Form 538 would be hand carried by that individual to the new unit. The losing fire chief should transmit the AF Form 538 to the gaining fire chief along with any fit test and servicing records of the PPE.

The third method that a fire fighter might leave an ANG unit would be through a request for conditional release. In this instance it is not advisable to allow the fire fighter to leave the installation with their PPE. It is not certain that this individual will find another ANG unit to affiliate with. In this particular instance, it is recommended that the losing unit hold the PPE for this individual for the period of the conditional release. If the individual finds a new unit and it is confirmed that they will be accepted by that unit, the losing fire chief should ship the PPE and all associated records to the gaining fire chief. This action will meet the intent of not causing

units to have to purchase new equipment whenever someone transfers in, and at the same time, ensure that valuable government assets are not lost if the individual fire fighter fails to find a unit and decides to separate.

The decisions of how this will be accomplished is a local one to be made by the CE commander in consultation with their fire chief. If you have any questions regarding this memorandum, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Points of contact for this action are Mr. Greg Winjum, ANG/CEXF, DSN 278-8170,  [greg.winjum@anf.af.mil](mailto:greg.winjum@anf.af.mil) and Mr. David Swickard, ANG/CEXF, DSN 278-8165, [david.swickard@ang.af.mil](mailto:david.swickard@ang.af.mil).

  
JANICE M. STRITZINGER, Colonel, USAF  
The Civil Engineer

Attachment:  
HQ USAF/ILE Ltr, 27 Jun 03



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON DC

MEMORANDUM FOR ALMAJCOM/CE  
HQ USAFA/CE  
11 CES/CC

27 JUL 2003

FROM: HQ USAF/ILE  
1260 Air Force Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20330-1260

SUBJECT: Permanently Assigning Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

This policy letter provides implementation guidance for Base Civil Engineers and Fire Chiefs to begin permanently assigning PPE to firefighters. Currently, firefighters are issued PPE when they arrive at their first duty station, turn in the PPE when re-assigned, and then are issued new gear at their new duty station. We will continue to issue PPE when firefighters arrive at their first duty station, but now firefighters will take the PPE with them when they move to a new base.

a. Effective 1 Aug 03, required PPE will be issued to firefighters upon arrival at their first duty station. This PPE is identified for personal retention in the remarks column of the attached Equipment and Supply Listing (ESL).

b. Upon a permanent change of station (PCS), the firefighter will retain PPE. Firefighters will identify personal retention items to Traffic Management Office personnel during the PCS out briefs to facilitate authorization for excess baggage. PPE must be hand-carried to the new duty station and cannot be shipped in hold baggage or in advance of arrival.

c. The Fire Chief of the departing firefighter will provide the gaining Fire Chief with AF Form 538 annotating PPE the firefighter had in his/her possession upon departure, copies of fit test records, and all servicing, testing and maintenance records for the self-contained breathing apparatus mask.

This initiative will simplify procedures, avoid waste, and ensure firefighters are immediately ready for duty when arriving at their new duty station. If your staff requires additional information, please have them contact CMSgt Rivera, HQ AFCESA/CEXF, at DSN 523-6153, email: Joseph.Rivera@tyndall.af.mil.

  
L. DEAN FOX, Maj Gen, USAF  
The Civil Engineer  
DCS/Installations & Logistics

Attachment:  
Firefighter PPE ESL

## FIREFIGHTER INDIVIDUAL RETENTION GEAR LISTING

ITEM	NSN	QUANT	REMARKS	PRICE PER
PANT, FIREMANS, BDU	4210-01-493-4680	4	QUANTITY INCREASES ARE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMANDER. INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	48.47
COAT, FIREMANS, BDU	4210-01-493-5463	4	QUANTITY INCREASES ARE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMANDER. INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	85.32
GLOVES, FIREFIGHTER FTS, ALUMINIZED	4210-01-NSL-0012	1	PR MUST BE NFPA 1976 COMPLIANT. INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	100.00
BREATHING APPARATUS, SELF-CONTAINED, SCBA	4240-01-333-3495	1	EA THE SCBA MASK ONLY IS AN INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	514.08
BOOTS, FIRE FIGHTERS, STRUCTURAL	5128-00-NSL-0001	1	PR MUST BE NFPA 1971 COMPLIANT. INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	150.00
HELMET, FIRE FIGHTERS, MODIFIED STRUCTURAL (ARFF)	8415-00-NSL-0020	1	EA MUST BE NFPA COMPLIANT. INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	370.00
BAG, SCBA MASK	8415-00-NSL-0021	1	EA INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	25.00
SUSPENDERS, TROUSERS	8415-00-NSL-0022	1	EA MUST BE NFPA COMPLIANT. INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	40.00
COAT AND LINER, FIRE FIGHTERS, ALUMINIZED	8415-00-NSL-0023	1	EA MUST BE NFPA COMPLIANT. INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	630.00
TROUSERS AND LINER, FIREFIGHTERS, ALUMINIZED	8415-00-NSL-0024	1	PR MUST BE NFPA COMPLIANT. INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	540.00
GLOVES, STRUCTURAL (FIRE)	8415-00-NSL-0025	1	PR MUST BE NFPA COMPLIANT. INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	75.00
GLOVES, FLYERS, NOMEX	8415-01-029-0113	2	PR INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	18.15
HOOD, HEAT PROTECTIVE, NOMEX	8415-01-150-8415	1	EA MUST BE NFPA COMPLIANT. INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	29.82
BAG, KIT FLYERS, A-3	8460-00-606-8366	1	EA INDIVIDUAL RETENTION ITEM.	22.85
			TOTAL COS	2715.31