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**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, GLOUCESTER COUNTY
NEW JERSEY**

Board of Fire Commissioners
P.O. Box 653
Turnersville, NJ 08012-0653

Fire Companies:
Grenloch
Hurffville
Whitman Square

**FIRE DEPARTMENT POLICY # 28 - 98
regarding
PERSONNEL RIDING ON FIRE APPARATUS**

All personnel riding on fire apparatus shall be seated in approved riding positions and shall be secured to the vehicle by seat belts at any time the vehicle is in motion except as otherwise allowed pursuant to this policy. Standing at any location on the apparatus, riding on tailsteps, sidesteps, or running boards, or riding in any other exposed position while apparatus is travelling on paved surfaces at speeds of five (5) miles per hour or greater shall be specifically prohibited.

When maneuvering apparatus in areas of limited space, particularly while travelling in reverse, personnel may be permitted to ride on the tailstep so as to be able to activate the buzzer to signal the driver to stop or proceed. Whenever possible at least one other person shall be assigned as a safety observer to assist in directing the operator. The safety observer shall have an unobstructed view of the path of the vehicle and shall be in visual and verbal contact with the apparatus operator.

Hose loading operations on moving fire apparatus may be permitted only when all of the following conditions are complied with:

1. All personnel involved in the hose loading shall have been trained in those procedures.
2. There shall be a member not involved in the hose loading operation assigned as a safety observer. The safety observer shall have an unobstructed view of the hose loading operation and be in visual and verbal contact with the apparatus operator.
3. Non-Fire Department vehicular traffic shall be excluded from the area or shall be under the control of authorized traffic control personnel.
4. No members shall be permitted to stand on sidesteps or running boards while the apparatus is in motion.
5. Members shall be permitted to be in the hose bed, but shall not stand while the apparatus is in motion.

Personnel may be permitted to ride unseated in the rear of power wagons providing all of the following conditions are met:

1. All personnel in the back of the power wagon shall have been trained in firefighting woods and brush fires.
2. The power wagon is performing off-road operations.
3. The apparatus is equipped with side rails to protect personnel from falling from the vehicle.
4. The terrain to be traversed by the power wagon is not characterized by steep slopes (greater than 30%) or other hazardous conditions.
5. All personnel in the back of the power wagon shall be outfitted in full turnout gear, including helmet with face shield, boots, bunker pants, and coat.

All firefighters riding on apparatus should wear full turnout gear whenever practicable. The driver may choose not to wear turnout gear while driving so as to facilitate maximum personal flexibility for driving of the apparatus. Helmets are recommended for all members, providing there is adequate head room and the helmet would not otherwise compromise the safety of the user.

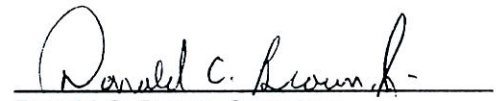
This policy was adopted at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners on June 4, 1998.

BY:



Edwin L. Etschman, Chairman

Attest:



Donald C. Brown, Secretary

Distribution:

Commissioners
Grenloch Fire Company
Whitman Square Fire Company
Hurffville Fire Company

Adoption Record:

Original: August 20, 1986
Revised: June 4, 1998