

San Mateo County Fire Service

POLICIES AND STANDARDS MANUAL

Standard: Helmet Shield Identification and Colors

Policy No. 2000-05

Adopted 08/01/00

Revised xx/xx/xx

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a standard to assist in facilitating Personnel Accountability on the emergency incidents.

Policy: It is the policy of the San Mateo County Fire Chiefs that officers and fire companies adhere to the procedures contained in this standard in order to provide a standardized helmet shield and tetrahedron identification system to assist in personnel accountability operations at emergency incidents. This county standard shall be required of all companies by January 1, 2001.

Background: With the increase in joint fire agency operations, the need to standardize helmet designations used in San Mateo County has become apparent. This policy establishes a standard to quickly identify an individual's rank or function by specified reflective decals (i.e., tetrahedrons) on the helmet, and their assigned fire agency or company by a number on the helmet shield.

Standard:

1. Helmet shields shall display the Battalion assignment for Chief and Prevention Officers, and the unit assignment for fire company personnel.
2. The following are *minimum standards* for reflective decals on helmets:
 - A. Chief Officer
 - White reflective Tetrahedrons
 - Two blue reflective Star of Life for Paramedic (one each side)
 - B. Captain
 - Red reflective Tetrahedrons
 - Two blue reflective Star of Life decals for Paramedic (one each side)
 - C. Firefighter
 - Lime/yellow reflective Tetrahedrons
 - Two blue reflective Star of Life decals for Paramedic (one each side)
 - D. Prevention Officers
 - Green reflective Tetrahedrons
 - Two blue reflective Star of Life decals for Paramedic (one each side)