
	STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE			
	OPERATIONS			
	SEAT BELTS			
	Effective: 01/May/92	Revised: 28/Dec/2020	S.O.G. #: O-314	

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this procedure is to establish clear guidelines for wearing seat belts in Fire Department apparatus.

2.0 Responsibility

2.1 It is the responsibility of all Department personnel to understand the procedures documented in this Standard Operating Guideline.

3.0 Guideline

3.1 According to the Illinois Vehicle Code (625 ILCS 5/12-603.1) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 12-603.1) Sec. 12-603.1. Driver and passenger required to use safety belts, exceptions and penalty:

3.1.1 Each driver and passenger of a motor vehicle operated on a street or highway in this State shall wear a properly adjusted and fastened seat safety belt. A child less than 8 years of age shall be protected as required pursuant to the Child Passenger Protection Act. Each driver of a motor vehicle transporting a child 8 years of age or more, but less than 16 years of age, shall secure the child in a properly adjusted and fastened seat safety belt as required under the Child Passenger Protection Act. Each driver of a motor vehicle transporting a passenger who is unable, due to infirmity, illness, or age, to properly adjust and fasten a seat safety belt and is not exempted from wearing a seat safety belt under subsection (b) shall secure the passenger in a properly adjusted and fastened seat safety belt as required under this Section

3.2 The guidelines of the Highland Park Fire Department will be for all Fire Department personnel to have a properly secured and adjusted seat belt in place whenever a Fire Department vehicle is in movement. The exception to this guideline is when a vehicle is being moved out on a station apron for apparatus and floor maintenance. This guideline also includes personnel riding in jump seat areas of apparatus.

3.3 Personnel riding in the rear of an ambulance during patient transport will also have a properly secured and adjusted seat belt as long as it does not compromise patient care.

3.4 Drivers shall not move Fire Department vehicles until all persons on the vehicle are seated and secured with seat belts in approved riding positions. The Company Officer, or senior firefighter if there is no Officer, is ultimately responsible for assuring that all vehicle occupants are wearing seat belts at all times that vehicles are in motion, except as otherwise provided herein.

4.0 Reference

4.1 Highland Park Fire Department

4.2 Illinois Vehicle Code 625 ILCS 5/12-603.1

Approved:  Fire Chief