

	<b>Frederick County, Maryland</b> <b>Division of Fire and Rescue Services</b>	
	<b>SPECIAL ORDER 20-018 Rev. 3</b>	
	<b>Date: November 17, 2020</b>	<b>Page 1 of 1</b>

**Facial Covering for Fire/Rescue Personnel**

Recent local and statewide orders have been issued requiring the wearing of facial coverings in various public settings. To ensure compliance with these orders, all on-duty fire and rescue personnel, will wear a facial covering when representing the Frederick County Fire/Rescue Service in all indoor and outdoor settings.

Effective immediately, facial coverings are required to be worn inside all Fire/Rescue Stations, the Public Safety Training Facility, the DFRS Logistics Warehouse and in all apparatus. The only exception to wearing facial coverings in fire stations and designated work sites include when personnel are *eating, drinking, participating in independent individual physical training with required social distancing, showering and when they are sleeping*. Facial coverings are not a replacement for PPE when responding to and operating on calls for service. The current Special Order 20-013 will continue to provide guidance for the appropriate facial coverings for dispatched calls for service.

Additional precautions are to be taken when personnel are eating and drinking to allow for social distancing. Those precautions can include eating in shifts or spreading out to eat in larger rooms. Sleeping arrangements in stations should be made so that the maximum distance possible exists between responders.

The issued reusable facemasks are to be considered a uniform item for career personnel. Any facial coverings other than surgical masks or the issued reusable facemask shall require approval as a non-issued uniform item per the uniform policy.

**BY ORDER OF:**

  
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 Division Signature