

RENO POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER

This directive is for internal use only and does not enlarge this department's, governmental entity's and/or any of this department's employees' civil or criminal liability in any way. It is not to be construed as the creation of a particular standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to any complaint, demand for settlement, or any other form of grievance or litigation. Violations of this directive, if substantiated, can only form the basis for intra-departmental administrative sanctions.

Chief of Police: Jim Weston /s/		
Legal Advisor: Karen Fraley /s/		
Approving Deputy Chief:		
General Order No: S-100-04	Issued: September 16, 2004	Supersedes: 3/290.000
General Order Title: CHEMICAL PROTECTIVE MASKS		

POLICY

This policy has been established by the Reno Police Department to facilitate the use of chemical protective masks for officers and outline procedures for their use.

PROCEDURES

Management Responsibilities

The Reno Police Department will provide adequate training in fitting, use, and maintenance of the chemical protective masks. They will also provide for the medical fitness screening of all department members required to wear chemical protective masks, as governed by OSHA and the City of Reno's Respiratory Protection Program.

Employees' Responsibilities

When a chemical protective mask is issued to an officer, that officer will be fit tested by a qualified member of the department. Each officer is responsible for storing and maintaining the chemical protective mask in accordance with the training received from the department.

Each officer shall inspect the mask at least twice a year. The officer will immediately notify his supervisor of any defects or problems with issued chemical protective masks.

Employees will use and maintain the chemical protective masks issued to them in conformance with instructions and training received from the department. They must wear only the chemical protective masks issued to them, and for which they have been fitted. Before every use, employees should visually inspect the issued mask for defects, perform Negative/Positive pressure tests, and inspect filters for serviceability.

SWAT Team Responsibilities

SWAT team members regularly practice and deploy with their chemical protective masks. Each SWAT team member will inspect their mask for malfunctions and defects on a monthly basis. SWAT team members will immediately notify their supervisor of any defects or problems with the issued chemical protective mask.

Medical Fitness Evaluation

Prior to issuance of a protective mask, each sworn member of the Reno Police Department will complete a Medical Fitness Evaluation. The Medical Fitness Evaluation will conform to requirements of the City of Reno's Respiratory Protection Program. After the initial evaluation, personnel will ensure that a re-evaluation will occur yearly thereafter. The Department will make re-evaluation attainable for all employees certified to wear the protective mask. A copy of each Medical Fitness Evaluation will be maintained by the department.

Officers requiring eyeglasses shall notify the department in writing that they request the issuance of eye wear that can be worn with the chemical protective mask. The department will refer the officer to the contracted facility for proper eye wear.