

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: Jason Soto /s/		
Approving Deputy Chief: Thomas Robinson /s/		
General Order No: S-100-04	Issued: September 16, 2004	Revised: Sept 12 th , 2019
General Order Title: RESPIRATORY PROTECTION		

I. POLICY

The Reno Police Department will train personnel in the proper fitment, use and maintenance of departmentally approved respiratory protection. Additionally, the department also provides for medical fitness screening of all personnel required to use respiratory protection, as governed by OSHA and the City of Reno's Respiratory Protection Program.

This policy applies to assigned employees who may be at risk of being exposed to respiratory hazards during the course of their duties. This policy is intended to comply with NIOSH, OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134 and the City of Reno Respiratory Protection Program (Supplement 5).

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. Air Purifying Respirators (APR)** – APR's, also known as gas masks, are negative-pressure, air-filtering respirators. APRs are used for respiratory protection against gases, vapors, mists, and particulates. APRs cannot be used in oxygen deficient environments.
- B. Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)** – SCBA's are positive-pressure, transportable air supply units, and afford maximum protection against toxic environments or oxygen deficient environments.

III. PROCEDURES

A. Medical Fitness Evaluation – Prior to receiving Respiratory Protection, assigned employees will complete a Medical Fitness Evaluation and are required to attend the evaluation annually thereafter. The Medical Fitness Evaluation will conform to the requirements of the City of Reno's Respiratory Protection Program. The Department will make re-evaluation attainable for all employees certified to wear an APR or designated to use an SCBA. A copy of each Medical Fitness Evaluation will be maintained by the department.

B. Employee Responsibilities – Employees who are issued Respiratory Protection equipment are responsible for:

1. The proper care, storage and maintenance, in accordance with departmental training.
2. Attending annual fit-testing conducted by the department.
3. Ensuring that their issued Respiratory Protection is in functioning properly and free from

damage or defects by inspecting their assigned APR at the beginning of each bid switch, before training with their issued Respiratory Protection and before operational deployment. In the event a defect is located, the employee shall immediately notify their supervisor and the Supply Technician.

4. Using only the Respiratory Protection issued to them, and for which they have been fitted, unless exigent circumstances exist.

C. Supervisor Responsibilities – Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that their assigned employees:

1. Have their issued Respiratory Protection readily accessible during special events or other times when directed.
2. Have their assigned Respiratory Protection at the beginning of each bid switch.
3. Receive replacement Respiratory Protection, when notified by the employee that their assigned equipment is damaged or defective.
4. Conduct the prescribed maintenance of the SCBA Equipment issued to them.