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| ***REPLACE WITH YOUR MASTHEAD*** |
| **VFIS logo black JPG** | **SOG Title:** |
| **SOG Number:** |
| **Original Date:** | **Revision Date:** |
| **ABC Fire Department General Operating Guideline** |

**Hearing Protection**

***This is a sample of a standard operating guideline (SOG) on this topic. You should review the content, modify as appropriate for your organization, have it reviewed by your leadership team and if appropriate your legal counsel. Once adopted, make sure the SOG is communicated to members, implemented and performance monitored for effective implementation.***

**Purpose:**

To provide hearing protection in all situations that exceeds 90 decibels (dBA).

**Scope:**

All personnel who operate power tools or operate in environments where the noise level exceeds 90 dBA.

**Responsibility**:

It is the responsibility of personnel who operate power tools or other operations MUST wear hearing protection when 90 dBA is exceeded

**Procedure:**

Hearing protection shall be provided and kept on apparatus which operates or carries power tools and equipment that exceeds 90 dBA when used.

Hearing protection shall be worn by personnel during all operation of power tools and equipment which exceeds 90 dBA.

* Operation includes all maintenance or testing procedures during non-emergency functions.
* Operation includes all emergency functions. (exception - situations where the use of hearing protection equipment would create an additional hazard to the user)

Hearing protection equipment shall be cleaned following use or as needed.

* Units shall be cleaned by wiping with a clean cloth and warm soapy water or disinfectant

Hearing protection equipment will be assigned to all units in the quantity that is needed to protect the maximum crew capacity.

Hearing protection is indicated for use with the following power tools and equipment:

* Chain saws - 93 to 116 dBA
* Circular saws - 100 to 112 dBA
* Extrication Tool (2 cycle) - 100 dBA
* Generators - l00 to 105 dBA
* Any other environments where ambient noise exceeds 90 dBA

***This is a sample guideline furnished to you by VFIS. Your organization should review this guideline and make the necessary modifications to meet your organization’s needs. The intent of this guideline is to assist you in reducing exposure to the risk of injury, harm or damage to personnel, property and the general public. For additional information on this topic, contact your VFIS Risk Control representative.***

**References:**