



GORDON COUNTY FIRE-RESCUE



Fire Chief
Doug Ralston

MEMORANDUM

Deputy Chief
Byron Sutton

Date: 14 October 2016

To: A. Berry, Gordon County Clerk

From: B. Sutton, Deputy Fire Chief 

Subject: **Expired Equipment**

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1851; 10.1.2, requires all structural fire fighting ensembles and ensemble elements to be retired no more than 10 years from the date the ensembles or ensemble elements were manufactured.

NFPA 1851; 10.2.2(1)(2), states any retired structural firefighting ensembles and ensemble elements shall be permitted to be used as follows:

- (1) For training that does not involve live-fire, provided the ensembles and ensemble elements are appropriately marked as being for non-live fire training only
- (2) As determined by the organization

In accordance with the NFPA Standard above, and as adopted by the Gordon County Board of Commissioners (see attached document), Gordon County Fire/Rescue (GCFR) has retired approximately 25 ensembles or ensemble elements from active service that can no longer be used for structural firefighting.

In its appearance most of the ensemble elements appear to be in good shape, at least in well enough shape that it should be able to be used for some good purpose. I have conversed with the Fire Chief and we have collectively agreed the gear could be used by a fire department with an active fire explorer program. A fire explorer program is a program geared toward teenagers who are interested in a career in firefighting, yet have not reached the minimum age to become a certified firefighter in the great State of Georgia, thus cannot participate in live-fire training.

I contacted our neighbors at Bartow Co. Fire, but they too have retired gear that they have put to use in their explorer program. Cherokee Co. Fire also has an active explorer program and after contacting their program director (the Asst. Fire Chief), he has expressed great interest in accepting the gear for use in his explorer program.

Staff recommends to the Board of Commissioners this obsolete firefighting equipment be declared surplus, and said surplus equipment then be donated to Cherokee Co. Fire & Emergency Services for use by their fire explorer program.