



# GORDON COUNTY FIRE-RESCUE



Fire Chief  
Doug Ralston

## MEMORANDUM

Deputy Chief  
Byron Sutton

Date: 19 July 2018

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, Gordon County Fire/Rescue (GCFR) has retired from active service the following ensemble elements that can no longer be used for structural firefighting:

- Rubber boots – 2 pair
- Helmets – 4 each
- Coats – 18 each
- Pants – 16 each

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. Some have several tears or rips that they are no longer useful and will be disposed of after surplus declaration.

I have conversed with the Fire Chief and we collectively agree the gear could be used by a fire department with an active Fire Explorer Program. A Fire Explorer Program is a program sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America and is 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.

In October of 2016, the Board was able to surplus 25 ensembles that were beyond the useful date and we then donated to a neighboring department in Gilmer County. We expect to do the same with any of these ensemble pieces that are deemed useful for the purpose stated.

Staff recommends this obsolete firefighting equipment be declared surplus by the Board of Commissioners; at which time the equipment will be offered to neighboring fire departments for non live-fire training purposes.