



RUSSELLVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
POLICY MANUAL

Policy Number:  
Section:  
Original Date:  
Revised Date:

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all personnel don proper hearing protection. This policy identifies different types of hearing protection and outlines approved practices for utilizing them.

It is the responsibility of all personnel to identify atmospheres that compromise hearing and don the appropriate hearing protection. Ineffective communication results immediately if the receiver cannot understand the sender. Permanent hearing loss can result from continuous exposure to routine and non-routine noises.

## **POLICY**

Hearing protection shall consist of but not limited to the use of internal ear plugs, ear muffs or radio headsets.

Radio headsets shall meet criteria allowing for improved communication and maximum hearing protection. Radio headsets shall be designed to be used with fire helmets.

All personnel shall don radio headsets while riding in or driving fire apparatus.

Foam internal ear plugs or equivalent shall be utilized in the engine bays when exercising apparatus, small engines, exercising audible warning devices or while grinding or pounding.

References: NFPA 1500

OSHA (29 CFR 1010.95)

Approved

Fire Chief

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