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Safety

**COMMANDER'S PERSONAL PROTECTIVE
EQUIPMENT (PPE) PROGRAM**

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This instruction implements Air Force Policy Directive 91-2. It establishes and clarifies the commander's policy on the authorization, procurement, and use of Air Force procured PPE. It applies to all personnel stationed at the Willow Grove Air Reserve Station, Pennsylvania.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

This revision does not add new requirements but formalizes numerous verbal and written directives that are currently in effect. A (I) indicates a revision from previous edition.

1. The Commander's PPE Program:

1.1. Commanders, functional managers and supervisors are responsible for providing a safe and healthful work environment for their employees. Air Force Occupational Safety and Health Standard (AFOSH) 91-31, *Personal Protection Clothing and Equipment (PPE)*, contains requirements for procurement, issue, use and care of protective clothing and equipment items. This standard governs hazard protection for civilian and military employees. It will be used by functional managers and supervisors in determining the types of protective equipment needed for employees in the safe performance of their duties.

1.2. In accordance with AFOSH 91-31 and OSHA 1920 Subpart I, the following procedures will be used to secure the safety of Willow Grove employees and reservists:

1.2.1. Functional managers and supervisors are responsible for conducting a Job Safety Analysis of their work place. The Safety Office (Ext. 1093) will provide expertise to assist the supervisor in identifying occupational hazards that can not be abated with engineering controls and thus require PPE. The base Bio-environmental and Public Health Office (Ext. 1147) will provide expertise in identifying occupational health hazards that can not be abated with engineering controls and thus require PPE.

1.2.2. Functional managers and supervisors will coordinate with the appropriate hazard OPR and the medical squadron to ensure that the PPE being procured is of the correct type to abate the hazard (AFOSH Standard 91-31, Atch 3). Only those items of protective equipment that meet the appropriate American National Standards Institute (ANSI), National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), or Mine Safety & Health Administration (MSHA) requirements for the type and exposure to the hazard will be procured or accepted for use. Required PPE use is a "condition of employment." Employees must wear, and supervisors must enforce PPE use. Failure to wear issued PPE while performing work, which requires it could and should result in disciplinary action. PPE, which must be modified for medical reasons, must be validated by the Medical Squadron and noted in official records.

1.2.3. If an employee needs prescription glasses to perform work, requires safety glasses as identified on the employees AF Form 55 (or equivalent official record), and the identified degree of risk requires frequent or continuous protection, the employee is authorized to be issued prescription safety glasses. The employee is required to provide an eyeglass prescription at his or her own expense. The employer will procure safety glasses of the correct type to abate the hazard present on the job, made to that prescription. The approved style for prescription glasses is bifocal with non-removable side shields. Tinted or transition lenses are not authorized, except for filter lenses (shade 6 or greater) used for radiant energy hazards such as welding.

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Commander