


# VALLEJO FIRE DEPARTMENT MANUAL OF OPERATIONS

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	Volume: 2	Chapter: 5	Section: 2	
	Approved By: Fire Chief Robertson		Date Issued: 10/12/10	Revision Date: 2/9/11
	Attachments:	Resources/Cross Reference:  RESOURCE#9		
Purpose: Define use of Body Armor for all Members				

**Procedure:**

A. Body armor will be issued as follows:

1. One - Duty Chiefs  
Four - Captain, Engineer, and two Firefighters  
One - Paramedic Coordinator
2. Each garment shall be labeled on the white tag inside with the company number. Example: VLJ E3
3. The items shall be recorded on the apparatus inventory.
4. Garments shall be carried on the apparatus at all times, and shall be stored flat (without folds to avoid breakdown of the Kevlar) in a location that is readily accessible, yet hidden from view by the public, if possible. Armor shall be kept in the red bags provided.

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Procedure:

B. Use of Body Armor

1. Personnel are required to wear the body armor when dispatched to the following incident types: shooting, stabbings, assaults (at the Captain's discretion), and other violent types of incidents. During times of civil unrest, personnel shall wear body armor at all times outside of quarters. Whenever the company is in route to, from, or within a tactical alert area, all personnel shall wear full turnout clothing, helmet and goggles, in addition to the body armor.
2. Personnel are encouraged to wear the body armor any time they feel it is necessary.
3. Body armor shall not be removed until conclusion of the incident, away from the incident location and out of the public view.
4. When required, body armor shall be donned prior to leaving the fire station or staging area.
5. If unit is in district upon receipt of an alarm where body armor is required, the armor shall be donned before arriving at the incident location.
6. Body armor must always be covered by a uniform jacket, a grass jacket, or a turnout coat.
  - a. Body armor shall not be work under a uniform shirt only. In most cases the fit is so snug under a shirt that it is evident that the member is wearing body armor.

