

CHAPTER 209

FIRE SERVICES

FIRE SERVICES REGULATIONS

SI 70/1972

(SECTION 11)

[Commencement 6th April, 1972]

- 1.** These Regulations may be cited as the Fire Services Regulations. Citation.
- 2.** In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires — Interpretation.
- “the Act” means the Fire Services Act; Ch. 209.
- “subordinate officer” means a member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade below the rank of Station Officer.
- 3.** Every member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade appointed under the Act and these Regulations shall — Conditions of appointment.
- (a) be of or above the age of eighteen years;
- (b) pass a medical examination as to his physical and mental fitness; and
- (c) be of such physical standard as may be required by the Fire Authority.
- 4.** (1) A member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade of or above the rank of Station Officer shall be appointed by the Fire Authority and may, subject to the provisions of regulation 9 of these Regulations, be promoted by the Fire Authority. Appointment and promotion.
- (2) A subordinate officer shall be appointed by the Director of Fire Services and may, subject to the provisions of regulation 9 of these Regulations, be promoted by the Fire Authority.
- 5.** A member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade shall be appointed for a period of one year in the first instance. Upon the expiration of such period such member shall be eligible for re-appointment for further periods in each case not exceeding three years at the discretion of the Fire Authority. Tenure of office.

Resignation.

6. (1) A member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade who intends to resign his office shall give one month's notice in writing to the Director of Fire Services and the Director shall, in the case of a member of the rank of Station Officer or above, forward the resignation to the Fire Authority.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in paragraph (1) of this regulation, the Fire Authority may grant permission to any member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade to resign or leave the service at any time.

Leave of absence.

7. The Director of Fire Services may grant leave of absence to a member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade of or above the rank of Station Officer and in the case of a subordinate officer the Chief Fire Officer may grant such leave.

Uniform.

8. (1) A member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade shall be supplied free of charge by the Fire Authority with such items of uniforms, clothing, equipment and necessaries as the Fire Authority may from time to time approve.

(2) A member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade when on duty or when required to do so by the Chief Fire Officer shall wear the appropriate uniform.

(3) When a member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade ceases for any cause whatsoever to be such a member he shall deliver over to the Fire Authority all uniforms, clothing, equipment and necessaries whatsoever supplied to him.

Examinations.

9. A member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade shall not be eligible for promotion to a higher rank unless he has passed the proficiency examination required for the rank. Such examinations shall be held annually, under the supervision of the Director of Fire Services.

Training and parades.

10. (1) A member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade shall be required to attend such parades at such times and places as may be appointed by the Chief Fire Officer or any other officer authorised by him.

(2) A member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade shall be required to attend not less than four hours of training a month, unless the Chief Fire Officer certifies that his failure to attend training was not due to the default of the

member. Training may include the maintenance and testing of fire-fighting equipment and shall be carried out under the supervision of the Chief Fire Officer or any other officer authorised by him.

11. (1) A member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade when called out to perform his duties under the Act and these Regulations shall be paid an allowance at the rates specified in the First Schedule to these Regulations.

Allowances.

First Schedule.

(2) Such payments shall be made monthly by the Police Paymaster on the direction and with the approval of the Fire Authority.

12. It shall be the duty of every member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade —

Duties of a member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade.

- (a) to preserve life and property from fire;
- (b) to take all reasonable steps for the removal of fire hazards or to report them to the Chief Fire Officer for his attention;
- (c) to report to the Chief Fire Officer any act or omission occurring either before, during or after a fire that, in his opinion, contributed directly or indirectly to damage or danger;
- (d) generally to do and perform all the duties appertaining to the office of a member of a fire brigade.

13. (1) A member of the Royal Bahamas Police Force appointed to serve in a fire brigade under the provisions of section 6 of the Act may be appointed to any of the ranks existing in the Force and shall wear the insignia applicable to such rank.

Ranks and insignia.

(2) A member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade may be appointed to any of the ranks specified in the first column of the Second Schedule to these Regulations, and shall wear the insignia applicable to such rank specified in the second column of the said Schedule.

14. (1) Any subordinate officer who —

Discipline.

- (a) is disrespectful by word, act or demeanour;
- (b) wilfully disobeys, or refuses, fails or neglects to obey any lawful order;
- (c) absents himself from duty without reasonable cause;

- (d) wilfully or by neglect, causes loss or damage to any clothing or article supplied to him or any equipment or other property committed to his charge;
- (e) is guilty of any act, conduct or neglect to the prejudice of good order and discipline of a Volunteer Fire Brigade, not hereinbefore specified,

shall be deemed to have committed an offence against discipline, and may, on conviction thereof, by the Chief Fire Officer, be punished for such offence.

(2) Any subordinate officer convicted under paragraph (1) of this regulation shall be liable to any of the following punishments, that is to say —

- (a) reprimand;
- (b) reduction of rank;
- (c) dismissal.

(3) Where a member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade of the rank of Station Officer and above commits any offence specified in sub-paragraphs (a) to (e) of paragraph (1) of this regulation, he shall be liable on conviction thereof by the Director of Fire Services to any of the punishments specified in paragraph (2) of this regulation.

Appeals

15. (1) Any member of a Volunteer Fire Brigade who is dissatisfied with any conviction or punishment of the Chief Fire Officer or the Director of Fire Services (as the case may be) in any proceedings under regulation 14 of these Regulations shall, if he gives fourteen days notice in writing to the Fire Authority, be entitled to appeal in respect thereof to the Fire Authority.

(2) The Fire Authority may, on the hearing of any such appeal, confirm, reverse, vary or modify the decision of the Chief Fire Officer or the Director of Fire Services.

Fault or failure of water supply

16. It shall be the duty of every Chief Fire Officer to report to the Director of Fire Services any failure or fault of any water supply available for fire-fighting purposes.

Attendance at fires

17. The Chief Fire Officer or the Senior Fire Officer on duty, shall determine the type and quantity of fire engines and apparatus to be despatched to a fire or emergency call.

18. The Director of Fire Services shall inspect every fire brigade not less than once a year and shall make a report to the Fire Authority whenever he inspects a brigade. Such reports shall deal particularly with matters relating to the personnel, training and equipment.

Fire Brigade inspection

19. Every Chief Fire Officer shall keep and maintain proper records and returns relating to the brigade under his command and such records and returns may be inspected periodically by the Director of Fire Services.

Records and returns

20. Subject to the provisions of the Act and these Regulations, standing orders may be issued:

Standing orders

- (a) by the Director of Fire Services, for the general control, direction and information of all brigades; and
- (b) by any Chief Fire Officer for the control, direction and information of the brigade under his command.

FIRST SCHEDULE (Regulation 11)

Rank	Allowance (per hour or part thereof)
)
Chief Fire Officer)
Deputy Chief Fire Officer)\$5.00
Divisional Officer)
Assistant Divisional Officer)
Station Officer)\$3.00
Sub Officer\$2.50
Fireman\$2.00

SECOND SCHEDULE (Regulation 13)

Rank	Insignia
Chief Fire Officer	Shoulder markings large impeller within laurel wreath with two small impellers above, cap one row of half inch raised silver embroidery, helmet one black band one and one half inches wide on white helmet.
Deputy Chief Fire Officer	Shoulder markings large impeller within laurel wreath with one small impeller above, cap one row of quarter inch raised silver embroidery, helmet two black bands three quarters of an inch wide with half inch separation on white helmet.
Divisional Officer	Shoulder markings large impeller within laurel wreath, cap plain cloth peak helmet one black band three quarters of an inch wide on white helmet.
Assistant Divisional Officer	Shoulder markings two large impellers, cap plain cloth, helmet two black bands half inch wide with half inch separation on white helmet.
Station Officer	Shoulder markings one large impeller cap plain cloth, helmet one black band half inch wide on white helmet.
Sub-Officer	Shoulder markings two horizontal chromium bars half inch wide, cap standard fireman's pattern, helmet two white bands half inch wide with half inch separation on black helmet.
Fireman	Shoulder band with the words "Volunteer Fireman", cap as for local constable, helmet all black.