

**WORKSAFE SERVICES DIVISION
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
LEGISLATIVE INTERPRETATIONS**



Topic	Firefighters – No wearing jewellery	Issued by: V.P., WorkSafe Services
Statute	<i>Regulation 91-191</i>	Date Issued: Aug. 11, 1999
Section	51.96	Date Revised:

51.96 When engaged in structural fire-fighting, a firefighter shall not wear any jewellery.

Question

Can a firefighter wear a watch and/or a Medic Alert bracelet or necklace while engaged in structural fire- fighting?

Response:

The prohibition against jewellery is one that applies only in the context of fighting fires and entering burning buildings. The Firefighters Technical Committee which recommended this provision in 1995, did so in consideration of the additional risks that were posed by catching decorative jewellery on a protrusion or by having it heat and burn the body.

Both watches and Medic Alert warnings are safety features. Watches are essential to monitoring oxygen and Medic Alert bracelets may provide essential information should a firefighter require treatment.

Since watches and Medic Alert bracelets are not considered as decorative jewellery they are outside the scope of 51.96 and are therefore permitted.