

LAWS OF GUYANA

FIRE SERVICE ACT

CHAPTER 22:02

**Act
7 of 1957**
Amended by

17 of 1954
26 of 1959
24 of 1962
24 of 1969
4 of 1972
25 of 1973
35 of 2009
O. 43/1957

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**Note
on
Repeal**

This Act repealed the Auxiliary Fire Brigade Ordinance, 47 of 1952

CHAPTER 22:02

FIRE SERVICE ACT

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

SECTION

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2. Interpretation.
3. Establishment of the Service.
4. Constitution of Units of Service.
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SCHEDULE—Fire Service Units.

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Cap. 22:02

Fire Service

CHAPTER 22:02

FIRE SERVICE ACT

7 of 1957

An Act to provide for the establishment of the Guyana Fire Service and for purposes connected therewith.

[30TH MARCH, 1957]

Short title.

1. This act may be cited as the Fire Service Act.

Interpretation.

2. In this Act –

[24 of 1969

25 of 1973]

“auxiliary member” means a member of the service other than a regular member.

“fire –fighting” purposes means the purpose of the extinction of fires and the protection of life and property in the case of a fire ;

“fireman “means a member of the service below the rank of the leading fireman ;

c. 28:02

“Local authority “means in relation to the city of Georgetown and the town of new Amsterdam ,the Georgetown city council and the new Amsterdam town council ,respectively ,in relation to any town or local government district established under the municipal and district councils act, the council of such town or district and ,in relation to any other area ,the local authority ,if any ,of that area within the meaning of the Local Government Act;

“officer “means a member of the service holding a rank senior to that of a sub –officer ;

“police force “means the police force established under the

c. 16:01

Police Act;

“regular member “means a member of the service liable for a whole -time service therein;

“regulations “means regulations made under this act ;

“the service “means the Guyana fire service established by section 3;

“subordinate fire officer “means a member of the service, other than a fireman ,below the rank of station officer and includes a member of the service of sub-officer ,section leader or leading fireman ;

“unit “means a unit of the service constituted in accordance with this act.

Establishment
of the Service.
[O. 43/1957]

3. (1) There is hereby established in and for Guyana, with effect from the 12th October, 1957, a fire service to be called the Guyana fire service.

(2) The service may be composed of one or more units constituted in accordance with this act.

Constitution of
units of Service.
Schedule.

4. (1) unit of the service under the respective designations described in the schedule shall be constituted in respect to areas of Guyana described in the schedule and shall be maintained primarily for fire -fighting purposes in such areas.

(2) The minister may by order from time to time amend the schedule.

Maintenance of
Service out of
public moneys.
[4 of 1972]

5. The minister may authorize the payment out of moneys provided by parliament of such sums of money as may be necessary for defraying the cost of maintaining the service.

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Contributions
by local
authorities

6. (1) Anything in section 5 to the contrary notwithstanding a portion of the total cost of maintaining any unit shall be borne by the local authority or local authorities as the case may be of the area in respect of which the unit is primarily maintained.

(2) The contribution to be made by a local authority towards the maintenance of any unit under the preceding subsection shall be determined by the minister after consultation with the local authority or local authorities concerned, and shall be deemed to be expenditure which the local authority is by law authorized to incur.

Types of
members of
Service.

7. The service may be composed of regular members or of auxiliary members of both regular and auxiliary members.

Composition of
Service.

8. The service shall consist of a chief fire officer, a deputy chief fire officer and such number of officer, subordinate fire officers and firemen as the minister may from time to time direct.

Members of
Police Force
deemed to be
appointed
members of
Service.

9. Any person who being a member of the police force is on the appointed day serving with the Georgetown fire service unit or the new Amsterdam fire service unit shall be deemed to be appointed a member of the service under this act with such a designation of rank as may be assigned to him.

Members of
Georgetown
Auxiliary Fire
Service.

10. Any person who is immediately before the appointed day a member of the Georgetown auxiliary fire brigade shall on the appointed day be deemed to be appointed an auxiliary member of the service under this act with such designation of rank as may be assigned to him.

Pensions and
gratuities of
members of the

11. Regular members of the service recruited thereto on or after the appointed day and members of the Police Force deemed to be appointed members of the Service under

Service.
c. 27:02

section 9 of this Act to whom the provision of the Pensions Act would not otherwise apply or continue to apply shall be eligible as the case may be for pensions and gratuities at the same rates and on the same terms and conditions as are applicable to ‘non-commissioned officers and constables of the police force enrolled after the first day of September nineteen hundred and fifty, and such pensions and gratuities shall be computed as though service in the Service in the Police Force .

Authority and
responsibilities
of Chief Fire
Officer.
[19 of 1954
26 of 1959
4 of 1972]

12. (1) The Chief Fire Officer shall, subject to the general order and direction of the Minister have the command and superintendence of the Service and he shall be responsible to the Minister for the efficient conduct and administration of the Service and for the proper expenditure of all public moneys appropriated for the service thereof.

(2) It shall be the duty of the Chief Fire Officer –

- (a) to carry out all necessary measures to ensure the proper discipline of the Service;
- (b) to see that the fire-engines, fire-boats and other fire equipment are kept in good order and thorough repair and are used to the best advantage for fire-fighting purposes;
- (c) to take cognizance of and to cause prosecutions to be instituted either in his own name or in the name of any officer or subordinate officer of the Service in respect of offences under the Fire Prevention Act or any other law for the prevention of fire;
- (d) at the close of every financial year, or

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oftener if required by the Minister, to report to him in writing the condition of the stations, hydrants, hoses, vehicles, fire-boats, fire-engines, and all other fire equipment and property under his charge; the income and expenditure of the Service in detail for the previous year; the number of fires and causes thereof, or as near as can be ascertained; the number and description of buildings destroyed or seriously damaged, together with the names of the owners or occupants, all accidents by fire which may be known to him; together with such other information or suggestions as may in his opinion be desirable.

(3) The Chief Fire Officer shall have his headquarters in the city of Georgetown.

Duties of
Deputy Chief
Fire Officer.

13. The Deputy Chief Fire Officer shall act as principal assistant to the Chief Fire Officer in the performance of his duties in respect of the Service, and shall have power, during the absence or incapacity of the Chief Fire Officer, or when authorised by him, to do or suffer any act or thing which may by law be done or suffered by the Chief Fire Officer.

Duties of
members of
Service.

14. (1) The officers of the Service shall perform such duties of the Chief Fire Officer as may be legally delegated to them and all such duties as devolve upon them under the regulations.

(2) The subordinate fire officers and firemen of the Service shall perform such duties as devolve upon them under the regulations and such other duties as the Chief Fire Officer may determine.

Call out of

15. It shall be lawful for the Chief Fire Officer in any

auxiliary
members.

case where in his opinion additional assistance is required for fire-fighting purposes to call out for service any auxiliary members of the Service and unless the context otherwise requires the provisions of this Act and of the regulations with respect to the powers, immunities, duties and obligations of members of the Service shall in relation to auxiliary members apply only to such members as are called out as aforesaid.

Illness, bodily
injury and
death of
auxiliary
members.
[4 of 1972]

16. (1) Where any auxiliary member of the Service through no fault of his own, contracts any illness, or sustains bodily injury while in the actual discharge of his duties as such, he shall be provided with medicines, medical comforts and medical attendance at the public expense on the written authority of the Chief Fire Officer.

(2) Where any auxiliary member of the Service sustains bodily injury in the circumstances specified in the preceding subsection, and is permanently disabled (either totally or partially) as a result thereof, the Minister responsible for finance may grant him a pension or gratuity, the amount of which shall be subject to the approval of the National Assembly.

(3) Where any auxiliary member of the Service as a result of the actual discharge of his duties as such and through no fault of his own, contracts any illness or sustains any bodily injury and due to such illness or bodily injury suffers any loss of earnings in his normal occupation, the Minister responsible for finance may grant him compensation therefor, the amount of which shall be subject to the approval of the National Assembly.

(4) Where the aforesaid bodily injury results in death, the Minister responsible for finance may awards to the defendants (including any illegitimate children to whose support the deceased was contributing) a pension or gratuity, the amount of which shall be subject to the approval of the National Assembly.

c. 36:01

Rights of entry
for fire-fighting
purposes.

(5) This section shall apply to an auxiliary member notwithstanding the fact that by reason of his injury or death he or his dependants as defined under the National Insurance and Social Security Act are entitled to benefits under that Act.

Control of
operations at a
fire.

17. Any member of the Service who is on duty, or any member of the Police Force may enter and if necessary break into any premises or place in which fire has or is reasonably believed to have broken out, or any premises or place which it is necessary to enter for the purposes of extinguishing a fire or of protecting the premises or place from acts done for fire-fighting purposes, without the consent of the owner or occupier thereof, and may do all such things as he may deem necessary for extinguishing the fire or for protecting from fire, or from acts done as aforesaid, any such premises or place or for rescuing any person or property therein.

Powers of
person in
control of
operations at a
fire.

18. At any fire, the senior member of the Service present shall have the sole charge and control of all operations for the extinction of the fire, including the fixing of positions of fire engines and apparatus, the attaching of hose to any water pipes or the use of any water supply, and the selection of the parts of the premises, object or place where the fire is, or of adjoining premises, objects or places, against which the water is to be directed.

19. On the occasion of a fire the Chief Fire Officer or other member of the Service in charge may in his discretion—

- (a) take the command of other persons who may voluntarily place their services at his disposal;
- (b) remove or order any member of the Service to remove any person who by his presence interferes with or obstructs the operations of the Service;

- (c) employ persons to aid in extinguishing any fire or in removing furniture or goods from any building on fire or in danger of fire, or to guard and secure the same;
- (d) cause any water to be shut off from the mains and pipes of any district in order to give a greater supply and pressure of water in the district in which a fire may break out;
- (e) generally, take any measures that may appear expedient for the protection of life and property.

Power to
destroy
property in
order to arrest
spread of fire.

20. On the occasion of a fire the Chief Fire Officer or other member of the Service in charge is hereby empowered if it appears to him necessary for the purpose of arresting the progress of any fire, to order any house or other building, paling or erection to be pulled down or otherwise destroyed, and he is also empowered to use any water in any tank, cistern or other vessel or receptacle in the neighbourhood of the fire; and no action for damages in respect of anything so done shall be maintainable against the Chief Fire Officer or other member of the Service in charge or against anyone acting by his authority.

Closing of
streets at a fire.

21. The senior officer of the Police Force present at any fire, or in the absence of any such officer the senior member of the Service present, may close to traffic any street or may stop or regulate the traffic in any street whenever in the opinion of that officer or member as the case may be it is necessary or desirable to do so for fire-fighting purposes.

Duties and
immunities of
water
undertakers.

22. Any water undertakers shall, on being required by any such member of the Service as is mentioned in section 19 to provide a greater supply and pressure of water for

extinguishing a fire, take all necessary steps to enable them to comply with such requirement and may for that purpose shut off the water from the mains and pipes in any area; and no authority or person shall be liable to any penalty or claim by reason of the interruption of the supply of water occasioned only by compliance of the water undertakers with such a requirement.

Immunities of
members of
Service.

23. No member of the Service acting *bona fide* in the exercise of the powers conferred upon him under this Act shall be liable for any damage or for any act done under this Act.

Interference
with Service.
[6 of 1997
35 of 2009]

24. Any person who wilfully obstructs or interferes with any member of the Service who is engaged in operations for fire-fighting purposes shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred thousand dollars and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

False alarms of
fire.
[24 of 1962
6 of 1997
35 of 2009]

25. Any person who knowingly gives or causes to be given a false alarm of fire to the Service or to any unit or member thereof, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred thousand dollars or to imprisonment for six months, and in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to a fine of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for two years.

Impersonating
member of
Service.
[6 of 1997
35 of 2009]

26. Any person who on the occasion of a fire, or with intent to exercise any power conferred by this Act on a member of the Service, impersonates or in any way pretends to be a member of the Service, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

Insubordina-
tion.
[6 of 1997
35 of 2009]

27. Any member of the Service who neglects or refuses to serve or refuses to obey any lawful command, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of twenty five thousand dollars.

Regulations.
[4 of 1972]

28. The Minister may from time to time make regulations relating to all or any of the following matters:

- (a) the admission of members into the Service, and the period of service and training of the men belonging to the same;
- (b) the scale of issue, and the type of uniform to be worn by, the hours of training and exercise of, and the distribution of duties among, the members of the Service;
- (c) the speedy attendance of members of the Service with engines, fire escapes, fire-boats and all necessary equipment on the occasion of any alarm of fire;
- (d) for the attendance of members of the Service with or without engines, fire escapes, fire-boats and all necessary equipment on the occasion of any call for the special services of the Service;
- (e) the maintenance of the Service in a due state of efficiency;
- (f) the hours of duty and leave of absence of members of the Service;
- (g) the ranks, pay, and allowances of members of the Service;
- (h) generally for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act.

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[4 of 1972]

SCHEDEULE

FIRE SERVICE UNITS

NAMES	AREAS
1. Georgetown Fire Service Unit.	The City of Georgetown
2. New Amsterdam Fire Service Unit	The Town of New Amsterdam.
3. Timehri Fire Service Unit.	The area bounded as follows: On the North: by the Kakabura Trench; On the South: by the sideline trench between Timehri and Plantation Alliance; On the East: by the Soesdyke Linden Highway; On the West: by the Demerara River, all boundaries being shown on a plan dated 18th March, 1966 and on record in the Lands Department as Plan No. 119, 911B.
4. The Linden Fire Service Unit.	The Town of Linden as defined by clause 2 of the Linden Town (Constitution) Order 1970 (No. 29 of 1970).

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

FIRE SERVICE REGULATIONS

made under section 28

REGULATION

1. Citation and commencement.
2. Interpretation.
3. Order of seniority among ranks.
4. Seniority within ranks.
5. Command of units.
6. Regular members not to hold other office.
7. Duties of members of Service.
8. Duty to obey superiors.
9. Duty to serve as directed by Chief Fire Officer.
10. Strength of Service to be published.
11. Housing of officers.
12. Housing of subordinate fire officers and firemen.
13. Restrictions on use of housing accommodation.
14. Canteens, shops and recreation rooms.
15. Messing.
16. Fine Fund.
17. Periods of duty prescribed in Service Orders.
18. Pay and allowances.
19. Leave.
20. Admission, training and service.
21. Uniform.
22. Members of Service to perform duties promptly.
23. Member of Service to make good loss damage of equipment, etc.
24. Member of Service to return issue on termination of service.
25. Certificate of service
26. Charges in special services.
27. Standing orders.
28. Application of Regulations and General Orders.

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[Subsidiary]

Fire Service Regulations

FIRST SCHEDULE—Pay and Allowances.

SECOND SCHEDULE—Admission, probation and training.

THIRD SCHEDULE—Uniform.

FOURTH SCHEDULE—Promotions.

FIFTH SCHEDULE—Substitution of Fire Service designation in Police Regulations.

Citation.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Fire Service Regulations.

Interpretation.

2. In these Regulations "Standing Orders" means Standing Orders issued under regulation 20.

Order of seniority among ranks.

3. The ranks of members of the Service below the Chief Fire Officer shall be those set out hereunder in order of seniority:

Deputy Chief Fire Officer
Divisional Officer
Assistant Divisional Officer
Station Officer
Sub-Officer
Section Leader
Leading Fireman
Fireman.

Seniority within ranks.

4. Members of the Service of the same rank shall take seniority among themselves according to their dates of appointment to such rank.

Command of units.

5. Subject to the general control and orders of the Chief Fire Officer, an officer in charge of a unit shall have the command, direction and general management of the unit and shall be responsible to the Chief Fire Officer for all matters relating to interior economy, fire fighting and fire prevention and the performance of all executive Service duties in the

unit.

Regular
members not to
hold other
office.

6. A regular member shall not hold any other office or employment for hire or gain or carry on any trade or business without the consent of the Minister.

Duties of
members of
Service.

7. All members of the Service shall carry out the lawful commands of their superior officers and shall devote their time and energies to fire fighting, fire prevention, the protection of life and property and aiding the sick and injured. They shall at all times carry out their duties without fear or favour, malice or ill-will, and with strict impartiality and courtesy towards members of the general public.

Duty to obey
superiors.

8. All members of the Service shall perform such duties as may be assigned them by their superiors in rank.

Duty to serve
as directed by
Chief Fire
Officer.

9. All members of the Service shall serve in such places and for such periods and in such capacities as the Chief Fire Officer may from time to time direct in accordance with the Act.

Strength of
Service to be
published.

10. The strength of the Service as authorised from time to time and the distribution thereof shall be published in Service Orders.

Housing of
officers.

11. Officers who are regular members shall reside in such quarters as may be provided for them by Government, and when no such quarters are provided they may be allowed such sum as the Minister responsible for finance may approve for housing accommodation, such accommodation to be approved by the Chief Fire Officer.

Housing of
subordinate
fire officers and
firemen.

12. Subordinate fire officers and firemen who are regular members shall reside in such quarters as may be provided for them by Government at stations, barracks or elsewhere, and when no such quarters are available they may

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Fire Service Regulations

be allowed such sum as the Minister responsible for finance may approve for housing accommodation, such accommodation to be approved by the Chief Fire Officer.

Restrictions on
use of housing
accommod-
ation.

13. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), where quarters are provided by Government only the wife and children of a subordinate fire officer, or fireman may reside with him in the quarters so provided:

Provided that the Chief Fire Officer may if he thinks fit permit any other relative to reside therein with such subordinate fire officer, or fireman.

(2) Nothing in this regulation shall apply to a friend or relative of a subordinate fire officer or fireman residing with him temporarily if no charge is made in respect of such residence.

Canteens,
shops and
recreation
rooms.

14. (1) No canteen, recreation room or shop shall be established in any unit except on the written authority of the Chief Fire Officer.

(2) The officer for the time being in charge of a unit shall be responsible to the Chief Fire Officer for the good management of all canteens, recreation rooms and shops established in such unit.

(3) Each canteen, recreation room and shop in a unit shall be under the direction of the officer in charge of the unit, and shall be managed by him with the assistance of a committee of members of the Service attached to the unit elected from among themselves.

(4) Intoxicating liquor may only be sold in any canteen, recreation room or shop during such hours and under such conditions as may be prescribed in Standing Orders.

(5) All canteen, recreation room or shop funds shall be deposited in the Post Office Savings Bank and shall be accounted for by the committee responsible for the management of the canteen, recreation room or shop.

Messing.

15. No mess for the provision of food to members of the Service shall be established in any unit except on the written authority of the Chief Fire Officer.

Fine Fund.

16. (1) All fines imposed on members of the Service under or by virtue of any regulations made under the Act shall be deducted from their pay and be promptly deposited by the Chief Fire Officer in the Post Office Savings Bank to the credit of an account entitled "The Fire Service Fine Fund", hereinafter referred to as "the Fund".

(2) The Chief Fire Officer shall cause a separate account of the Fund to be kept under the headings "capital account" and "income account", and he shall cause to be credited to the capital account one-half of the fines imposed and to the income account the other half of such fines together with all interest or dividends received from the Post Office Savings Bank or from any securities purchased with moneys belonging to the Fund:

Provided that, when, and so long as, the capital account has to its credit a total sum of not less than \$500, the whole of the fines imposed shall be credited to the income account.

(3) The whole or any portion of any sum at the credit of the income account may be applied by the Chief Fire Officer—

- (a) to the cost of the upkeep of recreation rooms, sporting outfits and other recreational equipment and of amusements for subordinate fire officers and firemen;

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- (b) to the cost of providing books and newspapers for libraries for subordinate fire officers and firemen;
- (c) to the payment of such rewards to subordinate fire officers and firemen as the Chief Fire Officer may approve; and
- (d) in such other manner for the benefit of subordinate fire officers and firemen as the Chief Fire Officer may from time to time direct.

(4) The Chief Fire Officer may invest the whole or any portion of any sum at the credit of the capital account in such securities as the Minister, after consultation with the Minister responsible for finance, may approve and the interest or dividends derived from such securities shall on receipt thereof be promptly deposited in the Post Office Savings Bank to the credit of the Fund.

(5) With the sanction of the Minister, the Chief Fire Officer may expend the whole or any portion of any sum at the credit of the capital account on any of the objects to which any sum at the credit of the income account may be applied.

(6) An annual account of the Fund made up to the 31st December of each year, together with the Post Office Savings Bank book and all vouchers, shall be submitted to the Director of Audit not later than the 31st January of the next succeeding year and the audited statement shall as soon as possible thereafter be submitted to the Minister.

Periods of duty
prescribed in
Service Orders.

17. The plan of periods of duty for subordinate fire officers and firemen shall be as prescribed from time to time by the Chief Fire Officer in Service Orders.

Pay and
allowances.
First Schedule.

18. (1) The pay and allowances of members of the Service shall be in accordance with the provisions set out in the First Schedule.

(2) Nothing in this regulation shall be deemed to prevent the Chief Fire Officer from providing members of the Service while on duty at a fire or other occurrence with such lodging, meals or refreshments as may be necessary in the interest of efficiency.

Leave.

19. (1) Section leaders, leading firemen and firemen deemed to be appointed regular members of the Service under section 9 of the Act shall continue to enjoy such leave conditions as were applicable to them immediately prior to the appointed day.

(2) Section leaders, leading firemen and firemen appointed to be regular members of the Service on or after the appointed day shall have and enjoy such leave conditions as are applicable to section leaders, leading firemen and firemen who were immediately prior to the appointed day members of the Police Force other than supernumerary constables, and who are deemed to be appointed regular members of the Service under section 9 of the Act.

(3) Regular members of the Service other than section leaders, leading firemen and firemen shall have and enjoy such leave conditions as may be applicable to them as members of the public service.

(4) The Chief Fire Officer or the officer in charge of a unit may grant leave to any auxiliary member serving in such unit.

Admission,
training and

20. The rules governing the admission of members into the Service and the periods of probation, training

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Fire Service Regulations

service.
Second
Schedule.

and service thereafter shall be as set out in the Second Schedule.

Uniform.
Third
Schedule.

21. The scale of issue and the type of uniform to be worn by members of the Service shall be in accordance with the Third Schedule.

Members of
Service to
perform duties
promptly.

22. Every member of the Service shall at all times punctually and promptly perform all appointed duties and attend to all matters within the scope of his office, and whether a member of the Service is nominally on duty or off duty his responsibility shall be the same and it shall be his duty to take action for the protection of life and property against fire.

Member of
Service to make
good loss
damage of
equipment, etc.

23. If any member of the Service disposes of, whether by pawn, sale, destruction, loss or otherwise, or wilfully or negligently injures any equipment, clothing or necessaries issued for the use of the Service he may, in addition to any other punishment, be required by the Chief Fire Officer to make good the amount of such loss or damage by stoppages out of his pay.

Member of
Service to
return issue on
termination of
Service.

24. Every member of the Service who shall be dismissed from or cease to hold or exercise his office in the Service shall forthwith deliver up to the officer in charge of the unit in which he is serving all clothing, personal equipment and Government property which may have been supplied to him or entrusted to his care, and on default in so doing shall be liable to pay for such items.

Certificate of
service.

25. Where a person ceases to be a member of the Service he shall be given a certificate signed by the Chief Fire Officer showing his rank and setting out the period of his service in the Service and the reason, cause or manner of his leaving the Service and the Chief Fire Officer may include in the certificate any comments of commendation which he feels justified in making.

Provided that where such person was required to resign or was dismissed, the certificate shall not contain any description of the circumstances in which he was required to resign or was dismissed.

Charges in
special services.

26. (1) The Chief Fire Officer may make in accordance with this regulation for any special services of the Service requested by any person for purposes other than fire fighting purposes.

(2) Whenever the services of the Service are requested by any person for purposes other than fire fighting purposes that person shall be required to sign an agreement in writing to pay for such services:

Provided that if the signing of any such agreement would cause delay endangering life or property the special services of the Service may be rendered forthwith and the agreement signed when circumstances permit.

(3) Any special service which in the opinion of the Chief Fire Officer or other officer in charge of a unit is of a humanitarian nature shall be rendered free of charge.

(4) The charges for the special services of the Service shall be set out in Standing Orders and shall be shown on the forms of agreement required to be signed by persons requiring the special services of the Service.

(5) Nothing in this regulation shall prejudice any right of the Government or any member of the Service to participate in the proceeds of any salvage claim.

Standing
orders.

27. The Chief Fire Officer may from time to time make such Standing Orders as he may think necessary for the management of the Service generally; but such Standing Orders shall not in any respect be inconsistent with any law

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[Subsidiary]

Fire Service Regulations

relating to the Service for the time being in force.

Application of
Regulations
and General
Orders.

28. All regular members of the Service shall in respect of any matter not provided for in the Regulations, be subject to the provisions of such Regulations and General Orders as from time to time regulate the service of public officers.

Reg. 18(1)

FIRST SCHEDULE

PAY AND ALLOWANCES

PART 1 PAY

1. The pay of the Chief Fire Officer and all regular members of the Service shall be such as may be prescribed from time to time by the Minister responsible for finance out of moneys provided by Parliament.

2. Where a regular member of the Service is promoted to a rank the minimum salary of which is less than or the same as the maximum salary of the rank from which he is promoted and at the date of his promotion he is in receipt of salary not less than the minimum of the rank to which he had been promoted he shall be granted one increment in his new scale with effect from the date of his promotion.

3. (1) A fireman who is a regular member of the Service and who has fifteen years' service may be granted a long service increment in his pay if the Chief Fire Officer is satisfied that he is of good conduct and has shown zeal and proficiency in the performance of his duties.

(2) A fireman who has been in receipt of a long

service increment for a period of not less than five years may be granted a further long service increment in his pay if the Chief fire Officer is satisfied that he has continued to be good conduct and to show zeal and proficiency in the performance of his duties.

4. Where a member of the Service has immediately before his appointment of the Service served with the Georgetown Fire Service or the New Amsterdam Fire Service, such part of such service as is continuous with his service in the Service shall count as service in the Service for the purposes of paragraph 3 of this part of this Schedule and paragraph 7 of the Fourth Schedule.

5. (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), auxiliary members of the Service when called out for service shall be paid at the same rate as regular members of the Service of equivalent rank.

(2) An auxiliary member of the Service called out for service shall receive the full daily rate of pay for duty in excess of 4 hours in any one day, but one-half of such rate in respect of duty of hours or less:

Provided, however, that in any special case where the lower rate of pay would entail financial loss to the auxiliary member the Chief Fire Officer may in his discretion authorise payment at the higher rate.

6. Auxiliary members of the Service shall be paid at the rates prescribed by the Minister responsible for finance in respect of drills attended by them subject to a maximum of 80 drills in any one year.

**PART II
ALLOWANCES**

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1. A regular member of the Service who is absent on duty from his home and usual place of duty and necessarily incurs additional expense in obtaining food or lodging or both shall be paid a subsistence allowance on the conditions and at the rates applicable to members of the public service of corresponding salary status:

Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall entitle a member of the Service to any subsistence allowance in respect of absence from his home and usual place of duty for the purpose of attendance at a fire or special service or at a drill or ambulance call.

2. A subordinate fire officer or fireman who is employed on a continuous duty system by reason of an emergency may be provided with free meals during such period.

3. A regular member of the Service shall, on the recommendation of the Chief Fire Officer, be granted duty, travelling or transport allowances on the same conditions as those under which such allowances are payable to members of the public service.

4. Any member of the Service who performs or assists in performing a special service for which a labour charge is made under regulation 26 of these Regulations shall be entitled to such proportion of that charge as may be prescribed from time to time in Standing Orders.

Reg. 20
[4 of 1972]

SECOND SCHEDULE

ADMISSION, PROBATION AND TRAINING

1. The minimum qualifications required of an

applicant for appointment as a regular fireman shall be as follows—

(1) He must be a Commonwealth citizen of not less than 18 and not more than 35 years of age.

(2) He must after examination by a Government Medical Officer be certified to be in good health, of sound constitution and suited both physically and mentally to perform the duties on which he will be employed after appointment.

(3) He must satisfy the Chief Fire Officer by undergoing a simple educational test to be set by such body as the Minister shall determine that he has attained an educational standard necessary for him to receive the training and subsequently to perform the duties of a fireman.

(4) He must pass a simple strength test set by the Chief Fire Officer.

(5) He must be of good character and not have been convicted of any criminal offence of a nature which would in the opinion of the Chief Fire Officer render him unsuitable for service in the Service.

2. The minimum qualifications required of an applicant for appointment as an auxiliary member of the Service shall be as follows—

(1) He must be a Commonwealth citizen of not less than 18 years of age.

(2) He must after examination by a Government Medical Officer be certified to be in good health, of sound constitution and suited both physically and mentally to perform the duties on which he will be employed after appointment.

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(3) He must be of good character and not have been convicted of any criminal offence of a nature which would in the opinion of the Chief Fire Officer render him unsuitable for service in the Service.

3. Every person on being enrolled in the Service as a regular member in the rank of fireman shall be placed on probation for 2 years and if at any time within the said period of 2 years he shows by his conduct or otherwise that he is not likely to become a suitable fireman the Chief Fire Officer may discharge him on one month's notice:

Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall apply to any regular fireman deemed to be appointed to the Service under section 9 of the Act.

4. A member of the Service on probation shall, before the expiration of his probationary period, satisfy the Chief Fire Officer that he has become proficient in the driving of heavy vehicles or the handling of fire boats, first aid to the injured and practical fireman-ship, and may for that purpose be required to pass tests in those matters.

5. (1) Every regular member of the Service of the rank of subordinate fire officer or fireman, unless specially or generally excused by the Chief Fire Officer, shall undergo periodic training in fireman's duties appropriate to his rank. Such training shall be performed on week days, excluding public holidays, and shall not normally exceed 8 hours in any week unless in the opinion of the Chief Fire Officer the number of hours of such training should be extended.

(2) Every auxiliary member of the Service of the rank of subordinate fire officer or fireman, unless specially or generally excused by the Chief Fire Officer, shall undergo periodic training in fireman's duties appropriate to his rank. Such training shall be performed at such times and places as

the Chief Fire Officer shall direct and shall not normally exceed 50 hours in any year unless in the opinion of the Chief Fire Officer the number of hours of such training should be extended.

(3) No member of the Service who is over 50 years of age shall be required to perform training which in the opinion of the Chief Fire Officer is physically exhausting.

6. For the purpose of paragraph 5 of this Schedule, "training in fireman's duties" shall be deemed to include the following:

- (1) all drills mentioned in the Fire Service Drill Book;
- (2) pump drills, wet and dry;
- (3) ladder drills;
- (4) escape drills;
- (5) carrying down drills and practical rescue work;
- (6) combined drills including foam drills;
- (7) hose drills;
- (8) ambulance drills including stretcher drills;
- (9) pump operating and fault finding;
- (10) training with respect to knots and lines;
- (11) fire boat drills and exercises;
- (12) rowing, sculling, steering and navigation;

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- (13) communication exercises;
- (14) first aid to the injured;
- (15) fitness training;
- (16) squad drill;
- (17) watchroom procedure;
- (18) lectures and film shows on fire service matters;
- (19) driving; and
- (20) combined exercises during the day or night.

7. All auxiliary members of the Service shall retire from the Service on attaining the age of 55 years.

Reg. 21
[4 of 1972]

THIRD SCHEDULE UNIFORM

1. Uniform and equipment issued to members of the Service shall be of such design and shall be worn in such manner as is laid down in Standing Orders.

2. (1) When any article of uniform or equipment has been replaced by some other article, the replaced article shall be handed in to the Service store, unless the member of the Service, with the consent of the Chief Fire Officer, buys such replaced article at a price to be fixed by the Chief Fire Officer.

(2) Uniform and equipment returned to the Service store shall not be reissued to any other member of the Service until it has received any necessary cleaning or renovation and is in serviceable condition.

3. All officers shall be provided with uniform and equipment free of charge in accordance with the following scale:

- (1) 1 fire helmet
- (2) 2 fire tunics
- (3) 1 belt
- (4) 1 axe
- (5) 1 axe pouch
- (6) 1 belt line
- (7) 1 whistle and chain
- (8) 4 sets of badges of rank
- (9) 1 waterproof coat
- (10) 1 pair of rubber boots
- (11) 2 pairs of leather shoes
- (12) 4 sets of K.D. shorts and bush jackets
- (13) 1 cap
- (14) 1 cap ornament
- (15) 2 pairs of serge trousers
- (16) 1 serge tunic
- (17) 3 sets of buttons
- (18) 2 white shirts
- (19) 1 black tie
- (20) 2 pairs of black socks
- (21) 2 pairs of khaki stockings
- (22) Drill Book
- (23) 1 set of Manuals of Firemanship
- (24) 1 white ceremonial tunic:

Provided that—

(a) auxiliary members shall be

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provided with one only of the articles of uniform set out in items (2), (11), (18), (20) and (21), two only of the articles of uniform set out in item (17) and two only of the articles of uniform set out in items (8) and (12); and

- (b) all items are replaced only as they become worn out.

4. All subordinate fire officers and firemen shall be provided with uniform and equipment free of charge in accordance with the following scale:

- (1) 1 fire helmet
- (2) 2 fire jerseys
- (3) 1 belt
- (4) 1 axe
- (5) 1 axe pouch
- (6) 1 belt line
- (7) 1 whistle and chain
- (8) 3 sets of badges of rank
- (9) 1 waterproof coat
- (10) 1 pair of rubber boots
- (11) 2 pairs of leather shoes
- (12) 2 pairs of socks
- (13) 4 pairs of trousers
- (14) 4 bush jackets
- (15) 2 caps and covers
- (16) 1 cap ornament
- (17) 2 sets of numerals
- (18) 2 pairs of overalls
- (19) 2 sets of buttons
- (20) 1 pair of yachting shoes
- (21) 1 southwester hat
- (22) 1 clasp knife
- (23) 6 white tunics

- (24) 1 pair of swimming trunks
- (25) Drill Book
- (26) 1 set of Manual of Fireman-ship
- (27) 1 white ceremonial tunic
- (28) 1 pair of trousers (white)
- (29) 1 jumper (white)
- (30) 1 scarf (black)
- (31) 1 lanyard (white)
- (32) 1 sailor's cap (white)
- (33) 1 cap ribbon:

Provided that—

- (a) items (7), (22) and (26) be issued only to leading firemen, section leaders and sub-officers;
- (b) item (23) shall be issued only to firemen who regularly perform ambulance duties;
- (c) items (20), (21), (24), (28), (29), (30), (31), (32) and (33) shall be issued only to members of the Service who generally perform fire-boat duties;
- (d) only items (12), (13), (14), (15) and (18) shall be an annual issue the remaining items being replaced as they become worn out; and
- (e) auxiliary members of the Service shall be provided with one only of the articles of uniform set out in items (2), (12), (13), (14), (15) and (18), and that all items issued to auxiliary

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members shall be replaced only as they become worn out.

5. Bedding shall be issued to each subordinate fire officer and fireman as follows—

1 Blanket
2 sheets
1 pillow
2 pillow cases.

6. All articles of uniform, bedding and equipment issued to any member of the Service shall be marked with the identification mark of the member.

Note Promotion

By virtue of section 12(1) of the Guyana Independence Order, regulation 22A (regulation 22 in the original Regulations) of the above Regulations (the Fire, Service Regulations) continues to have effect (until the Commissioner otherwise directs) as if it were a delegation made by the Public Service Commission under article 96(2) of the Constitution.

Regulation 22A reads as follows:

The qualifications for and the rules governing promotion to any rank of subordinate fire officer shall be as set out in the following Schedule.

reg. 22A
Reg. 10/1965.

FOURTH SCHEDULE

PROMOTIONS

- 1.** In this Schedule “promotion” means promotion to any rank of subordinate fire officer.
- 2.** All promotions shall be made by the Chief Fire Officer provided that promotions to the rank of sub-officer shall only be made with the approval of the Minister.
- 3.** In order to assist the Chief Fire Officer in matters of promotion a Selection Committee shall be established consisting of three members of the Service appointed by the Chief Fire Officer.
- 4.** It shall be the duty of the Selection Committee to interview and examine all candidates for promotion and to make such recommendations as they think fit to the Chief Fire Officer, but the Chief Fire Officer shall not be bound to act in accordance with the Selection Committee's recommendation.
- 5.** Members of the Service shall be considered for promotion to ranks above that of leading fireman on merit, and seniority shall only be taken into account where in the opinion of the Selection Committee candidates for promotion are otherwise of equal merit.
- 6.** All members of the Service shall have equal opportunity for promotion regardless of any specialist duties on which they are or may have been engaged.
- 7.** No regular member of the Service shall be promoted unless he has completed three years service:

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Provided that a member of the Service who has successfully completed an overseas training course approved by the Chief Fire Officer shall be exempted from the requirement to be examined for promotion.

8. When a vacancy occurs in any rank above that of leading fireman the vacancy shall be notified to all members of the Service and every member holding rank immediately below that in which the vacancy exists shall have the right to become a candidate and to cause himself to be examined for promotion.

9. When examining a candidate with a view to assessing his suitability for promotion, the Selection Committee shall cause the candidate to take a written, a practical and an oral examination to be set by the Chief Fire Officer all of which shall be so designed as to reveal the candidate's knowledge of the subjects, skill in practical firemanship and ability to command men.

10. (1) All questions in the written examination shall be set by the Chief Fire Officer who shall cause the questions to be kept secret until the commencement of the examination.

(2) The written examination shall be so prepared that candidates shall have a reasonable opportunity of answering all questions required to be answered in the specified time.

11. The oral and practical examinations shall be conducted by the Selection Committee and the records of the examinations shall contain details of the questions asked or tasks set, the maximum marks awarded each correct answer or correctly performed task the name of the candidate and the marks obtained by him on each question or task.

12. The records of all promotion examinations shall be kept by the Chief Fire Officer and a member of the

Service who passes any such examination for promotion to a particular rank need not offer himself for examination again for promotion to that rank.

13. The fact that a member of the Service has passed a promotion examination shall only qualify him to be considered for promotion.

14. Nothing is this Schedule shall preclude the Chief Fire Officer or other officer in charge of a unit from making temporary appointments of subordinate fire officers on an unpaid basis if the exigencies of the Service so require.

By virtue of section 12(1) of the Guyana Independence Order, regulation 23A (regulation 23 in the original Regulations) of the above Regulations (the Fire Service Regulations) continues to have effect (until the Commissioner otherwise directs) as if it were a delegation made by the Public Service Commission under article 96(2) of the Constitution.

Regulation 23A reads as follows:

(1) The provisions of Part II and Part IV of the Police Regulations relating to discipline shall, subject to paragraph (2) of this regulation, apply to members of the Fire Service.

(2) For the purpose of paragraph (1) of this regulation, the provisions of the Police Regulations mentioned therein shall have effect as if there were substituted for the Police Force designations set out in the first column of the following Schedule to these Regulations the corresponding Fire Service designations set out in the second column of the said Schedule.

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Reg. 23A
[4 of 1972]

FIFTH SCHEDULE

SUBSTITUTION OF FIRE SERVICE DESIGNATIONS IN POLICE REGULATIONS

Police Force Designation	Fire Brigade designation to be substituted.
“Force” and “Police Force”	“Service”
“Commissioner”	“Chief Fire Officer”
“superintendent”	“Deputy Chief Fire Officer”
“assistant superintendent”	“station officer”
“officer”	“officer of the Service”
“inspector” and “sub-inspector”	“sub-officer”
“non-commissioned officer” and “sub-officer”	“subordinate fire officer”
“constable”	“fireman”
“General Orders” and Police	“standing Orders of the Service”
“General Orders”	

Reg. 3/1964.

FIRE SERVICE (FIRE HYDRANTS) REGULATIONS

made under section 28

Citation.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Fire Service (Fire Hydrants) Regulations.

Penalty.

2. Any person who obstructs any fire hydrant otherwise than in consequence of its use shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of twenty-five dollars:

Provided that it shall not amount to an obstruction under these Regulations if a vehicle is in such a position that no part of the vehicle is within five feet of an imaginary line connecting any fire hydrant with the nearest point on the edge of any carriage way.
