

SUBMERGED SCBA EMERGENCIES

A. Purpose:

To establish guidelines in the event of accidental submersion of personnel wearing SCBA.

B. Scope:

These guidelines shall be followed in the event of accidental submersion in a swimming pool, creek, etc. while wearing SCBA.

C. Guideline

1. SCBA shall never be intentionally used in underwater activities. The SCBA are not designed for Scuba purposes as death or serious injury can occur.
2. If accidentally submerged, AND IF:
 - a. Air free flows around the face seal; place hand on the mask and apply pressure to stop the air from leaking.
 - b. Air free flows from the exhalation valve; place hand over the front of the mask and control the air flow by turning the wheel valve on the supply bottle on and off when air is needed.
 - c. No air flow to the face piece; place hand on the front of the mask and operate the emergency bypass valve when air is needed.
 - d. Buoyancy; Bunker gear will float so DO NOT REMOVE YOUR BUNKER GEAR. Assume a knee-tuck position and remain calm, you will float.

D. Returning the SCBA to Service

Any SCBA that has been submerged for any amount of time shall be removed from service until it has been disassembled, cleaned and inspected by a certified technician.