

## Post Incident Decontamination Procedure

### 309.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Listed below are the steps to be taken after an incident that requires decontamination of equipment, PPE and personnel.

### 309.2 ESTABLISH A DECONTAMINATION AREA

- (a) Use suppression apparatus for a water source.
- (b) Decon area should be away from apparatus, smoke and other on scene activities.
- (c) Water should flow away and not form a pool of contaminated water.
- (d) Second arriving Driver will set up the area with the green cone, hose and other equipment.

### 309.3 GROSS DECON

- (a) Due to PPE off gassing and the high threat of particulates that need to be avoided, remain on air from your SCBA during this process.
- (b) Crew members will decon each other.
- (c) Brush off large debris. Always brush away or downwards, never towards the center of the body or face.
- (d) Cover electronics including the SCBA speaker, radio and lapel mic.
- (e) Rinse with soapy water solution and then water. Start at the top and work down taking caution around openings to prevent soaking the inner liner of the PPE.

### 309.4 GEAR DROP ZONE

- (a) Place gear in a clean area away from the decon area and other activities.
- (b) Remove SCBA and take hood and mask off in one movement while holding your breath.
- (c) Take care not to cross contaminate when removing gear and gloves.
- (d) Lay gear out to dry in a way that it can be used again at the incident if needed.

### 309.5 PERSONAL DECON

- (a) Use a decon wipe on your SCBA mask seal and helmet brim.
- (b) Use a decon wipe to clean exposed skin.
  - 1. Begin with face and then neck (front and back along with ears).
  - 2. Entire head from front to back.
  - 3. Wipe arms, hands, and fingernails.

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4. Wipe underarms, body, and stomach.
5. Blow your nose and wipe nostrils.

#### **309.6 REHAB**

- (a) Rehab area should be kept free of cross contamination.
- (b) Record vital signs.
- (c) Hydrate with water or sports drinks, not sodas or coffee.
- (d) Combat environmental factors (heat/cold).

#### **309.7 LEAVING THE SCENE**

- (a) Bag Gear in a clear plastic bag, double taping the bag. Gear can be kept in the cab when bagged.
- (b) Gear may be used if needed for emergency response prior to swapping or cleaning.

#### **309.8 RETURNING TO THE STATION**

- (a) Use EMS gloves and eye protection when cleaning.
- (b) Warm soapy water for equipment:
  1. SCBA, facemask, radio strap, helmet, boots, flashlight, TIC.
- (c) Use decon wipes to clean inside helmet, radio,
- (d) Employees should shower and change uniform as soon as possible but after equipment has been cleaned so that recontamination does not occur.