

Egg Harbor Fire Department and First Responders Standard Operating Guidelines

SUBJECT: AIR QUALITY AT FIRE SCENES

SOG 202

PURPOSE: To have in place a policy for all personnel to follow at a fire scene for wearing SCBA or when it is permissible to remove your SCBA at a fire scene in regards to the quality of the air.

SCOPE: This policy shall apply to all members of the Egg Harbor Fire Department.

RESPONSIBILITY:

It shall be the responsibility of the Incident Commander or Safety Officer to see that this is enforced.

DEFINITIONS: SCBA - Self-contained Breathing Apparatus
O₂ - Oxygen
CO - Carbon monoxide
LEL – Lower Explosive Limit
H₂S- Hydrogen Sulfide
PPM - parts per million

1. SCBA shall be worn at fire scenes per SOG 102.
2. During and after the fire has been extinguished, and while overhaul is being conducted, the Incident Commander shall have the scene continuously checked for the quality of the air in and around the fire scene, using the department's multi-gas detector.
 - A. If a level of 35 PPM or higher of CO is found - SCBA shall be worn.
 - B. If a level of 19.5% or lower of Oxygen is found - SCBA shall be worn.
 - C. If a level of 10 PPM or higher of H₂S is found - SCBA shall be worn.
 - D. If a level of 10% or higher of LEL is found – evacuate area.