

Personal Alarm Devices

908.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to safeguard members who are engaged in interior structural firefighting activities or other immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH) conditions that require the use of a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) by providing each member so engaged with a personal alarm device. Such devices may also be known as a Personal Alarm (or Alert) Safety System (PASS) device, an Automatic Distress Signal Unit (ADSU) or another telemetry system that is designed to monitor responder movement and alert others to a lack of movement.

908.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Blue Ridge Fire District to provide all members engaged in interior structural firefighting activities or other emergency operations that require use of an SCBA with a personal alarm device.

908.3 USE OF PERSONAL ALARM DEVICES

All personal alarm devices shall meet the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1982.

Members should wear a personal alarm device any time they are in atmospheres that are IDLH.

The Incident Commander (IC) shall apply personnel accountability measures to track the entry and exit of members from hazardous areas. A personal alarm device should be viewed as a last resort for members to summon help when they are unable to notify others that they are in distress.

908.4 MAINTENANCE OF PERSONAL ALARM DEVICES

All personal alarm devices shall be repaired and maintained by qualified members or service representatives in accordance with manufacturer recommendations.