

## **20.00.080 RESPIRATORS**

### **SCBA**

SCBA means an atmosphere-supplying respirator for which the breathing air source is designed to be carried by the user.

Personnel assigned to the Explosive Unit will enhance safety of operations through the use of SCBA worn in conjunction with other department-issued safety equipment during the performance of their duties.

### **SCBA Issuance**

SCBA will be issued only to department explosive unit officers who have been medically cleared by an approved physician/licensed health care professional (PLHCP).

SCBA will be used only by explosive unit officers who have passed an annual quantitative fit test.

Issued SCBA, and the related repair and replacement procedures will conform to the standards established by manufacturer, the state, and city.

### **SCBA Use**

Explosive unit officers may be required to use SCBA under certain situations during the course of their duties.

Explosive unit officers may be exempted from wearing Air Purifying Respirators for the following reasons:

- ❖ When a PLHCP determines that an officer has a condition that would preclude wearing SCBA
- ❖ When the officer displays any medical and/or physical conditions that would prohibit the wearing of SCBA
- ❖ When exempted by a supervisor

Explosive unit officers will use only state approved SCBA equipment.

SCBA equipment will be inspected prior to use and on a monthly basis.

### **Maintenance and Repairs**

The Explosive Unit Commander or designee is responsible for ensuring that the SCBA equipment is properly worn and used, inspected and maintained, and that worn or damaged equipment is repaired or replaced.

Repairs or adjustments to respirators must be made only by persons trained to perform such operations, who must use only the respirator manufacturer's NIOSH-approved parts designed for the respirator.

Repairs must be made according to the manufacturer's recommendations and specifications for the type and extent of the repairs to be performed.

Reducing and admission valves, regulators, and alarms must be adjusted or repaired only by the manufacturer or a technician trained by the manufacturer.

Individual explosive unit officers are responsible for the proper wearing and use, care and maintenance in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and state standards of individual SCBA equipment.

### **Bomb Squad Commander Responsibilities**

The Bomb Squad Commander will be responsible for:

- ❖ Ensuring each explosive unit officer is medically cleared to wear SCBA
- ❖ Coordinating annual SCBA training
- ❖ Ensuring the related records are maintained for each explosive unit officer issued SCBA

## **APR**

APR means a respirator with an air-purifying filter, cartridge, or canister that removes specific air contaminants by passing ambient air through the air-purifying element.

It is the policy of the Department to maximize uniformed personnel safety through the use of air purifying respirators (APR) in conjunction with other department-issued safety equipment during the deployment of crowd control agents (chemical munitions/gas), diversionary/distraction devices, or other tactical situations.

## **APR Issuance**

After receiving medical clearance by an approved physician/licensed health care professional (PLHCP), commissioned uniformed personnel will be issued an APR (and appropriate filter) and carrier.

The issued APR will conform to the standards prescribed by the State and PSS.

Commissioned uniformed officers will undergo annual quantitative APR test fitting and training.

## **APR Use**

During an unusual occurrence, commissioned uniformed personnel may be directed by a supervisor or command officer to wear an APR while performing crowd control & dispersal duties or other tactical duties.

Commissioned uniformed personnel will wear only department issued and approved APR.

Commissioned uniformed personnel will be exempted from wearing an APR for the following reasons:

- ❖ When a PLHCP determines that an officer has a medical condition that would preclude wearing an APR
- ❖ When the personnel displays any medical and/or physical conditions that would prohibit the wearing of an APR
- ❖ Personnel displaying facial hair that interferes with a proper fit and seal of the APR
- ❖ When exempted by a supervisor or command officer

## **Maintenance**

Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that personnel properly care and use the APR. Supervisors will ensure that APR's are properly maintained, repaired, and replaced as necessary.

Repairs or adjustments to respirators must be made only by persons appropriately trained to perform such operations, who must use only the respirator manufacturer's NIOSH approved parts designed for the respirator. Repairs must be made according to the manufacturer's recommendations and specifications for the type and extent of repairs to be performed.

Each officer is responsible for the proper care, maintenance, and monthly inspection of their assigned APR in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, state requirements, and training.

APR's that are damaged or worn beyond repair will be repaired and/or replaced as necessary by trained personnel.

### **Patrol Section Responsibilities**

The Patrol Section Major will be responsible for:

- ❖ Ensuring each commissioned uniformed officer is medically cleared to wear an APR
- ❖ Ensuring each commissioned uniformed officer is issued an APR, filter, and carrier
- ❖ Ensuring related records are maintained for each commissioned uniformed officer issued an APR
- ❖ Coordinating the annual APR training programs
- ❖ Coordinating the repair and replacement of worn and damaged APR