

# SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 8

## Standard Operating Procedures

**40.04.03**  
**PERSONAL ALERT**  
**SAFETY SYSTEMS**  
**(PASS)**



Adopted: 12/20/16  
Reviewed: 11/18/21  
Revised: 11/18/21

Approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jan J. Balch", is written over a horizontal line.

**Purpose:** To ensure Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS) devices are maintained and used appropriately.

**Reference:** WAC 296-305-02017  
1993 edition of NFPA 1982 Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems

**Procedure:**

1. Overall.

- a) Spokane County Fire District 8 will provide a PASS device for each self-contained breathing apparatus available to each member, and/or for each member engaged in structural firefighting requiring the use of SCBA.
- b) Without exception each member working in a hazardous area requiring the use of self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) shall wear and use a PASS device. Use of breathing apparatus shall mean that members have face pieces in place and are breathing air from the supply provided.
  - i. Each PASS device shall be tested routinely to ensure it is ready for use, and immediately prior to its use.
- c) PASS devices shall meet the requirements of the 1993 edition of NFPA 1982 Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems.

2. Responsibility.

- a) The Fire District is responsible for the care, use maintenance and repair of our PASS devices.
- b) Each member shall keep their PASS device maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- c) Each member shall be responsible for maintaining PASS devices in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- d) District SCBA Technicians shall be responsible for maintaining and providing repair of PASS devices in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

3. Guidelines.

- a) Follow manufacture recommendations.
- b) PASS device shall be utilized when:
  - i. A contaminated atmosphere.
  - ii. An atmosphere which may suddenly become contaminated.
  - iii. An atmosphere which is oxygen deficient.
  - iv. An atmosphere which is suspected of being contaminated or oxygen deficient.

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- c) This requirement to wear SCBA equipped with a PASS device includes all members operating:
  - i. In an active fire area.
  - ii. Directly above an active fire area.
  - iii. In a potential explosion or fire area, including gas leaks and fuel spills.
  - iv. Where products of combustion are visible in the atmosphere.
  - v. Where invisible contaminants are suspected to be present e.g. carbon monoxide.
  - vi. Where toxic products are present, suspected to be present, or may be released without warning.
  - vii. In any confined space which has not been tested to establish respiratory safety.
- d) Each PASS device shall be tested immediately prior to each use to ensure it is ready for use. Each member will test their PASS device.
  - i. At the change of every shift when the SCBA daily check is conducted.
  - ii. Whenever a replacement PASS device unit is issued.
  - iii. After each use.
- e) Incident Commanders should ensure that PASS devices are used when necessary, without regard to their association with SCBA.