

USE OF SCBA FRAME OR ASSEMBLY AS AN ATTACHMENT POINT FOR ROPE OPERATIONS

The Office of Fire Prevention and Control has been made aware of several incidents that have occurred recently where the SCBA frame or assembly was used as an attachment point for rope operations. Some of these incidents have resulted in the failure of the SCBA frame or assembly, causing firefighter injury.

The practice of utilizing the SCBA backpack and straps is inherently unsafe as the SCBA is not designed, nor is it tested, to be a harness assembly. Any harness assembly shall be designed to be compliant with the NFPA 1983 standard, as outlined in the New York State Department of Labor, 12 NYCRR Part 800, Life Safety Rope regulation.

Instructors delivering training authorized by the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control are reminded that this is not an acceptable method for conducting any OFPC training evolutions. Instructors conducting OFPC training courses are reminded that they need to use an approved Class II harness or a "hasty harness" tied from webbing. The following link demonstrates the "hasty harness" <http://www.animatedknots.com/harness/index.php>



NYS Department of State

OFFICE OF
**FIRE PREVENTION
& CONTROL**

phone 518.474.6746
fax 518.474.3240
email fire@dos.state.ny.us