

Santa Barbara City Fire Department - Standard Operating Procedures Safety Operations	Code: S-VII-4
Apparatus Fire Shelter Curtains	
Chpt: VII Wildland Fire Safety	Revised: 1/16/12 Pages: 3


I. PURPOSE

- A. To promote careful risk assessment, with intentions of avoiding wildland fire entrapments to SBF D personnel.
- B. Understand the proper use of the Fire Shelter Curtains installed on SBF D apparatus.

II. ENTRAPMENT AVOIDANCE

- A. SBF D personnel should avoid situations which present a high potential for fire entrapment.
 - 1. Maintain adequate LCES for all assignments. (See Wildland fire safety [S-VII-2](#))
 - 2. Evaluate the risk vs. gain of all wildland fire assignments.
- B. Having Fire Shelter Curtains should never cause acceptance for a higher level of risk. They are intended as a last resort for firefighter protection.
- C. If changing conditions compromise firefighter safety, consider retreating to safety zone until conditions become more tenable.

III. FIRE SHELTER CURTAIN DESIGN

<p>Fire Shelter Curtains are designed for deployment when a fire apparatus is faced with a wildland fire entrapment situation.</p> <p>Proper deployment of Fire Shelter Curtains will reduce radiant and convective heat impact to firefighters, providing a more survivable environment within the cab of fire apparatus.</p>	
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Apparatus Fire Shelter Curtains

IV. DEPLOYMENT PROCEDURE

When a fire entrapment is felt to be imminent and unavoidable, personnel should communicate the need to deploy all Fire Shelter Curtains within the apparatus cab, without hesitation.

Personnel should pull the pink colored pull-tabs, allowing the curtains to roll free and cover the window.



Curtains include Velcro edges, which should be secured to the Velcro strips adjacent to the windows.

Personnel should remain in cab of apparatus until it has been determined as safe by company officer.



Front window and windshield curtains require unfolding for proper placement.

SCBA use should be considered during an entrapment, to avoid smoke inhalation.



Apparatus Fire Shelter Curtains

V. INSPECTION AND STORAGE

Inspection of curtains should be completed at least once annually, by each SBFDD crew.

Being familiar with the curtains will increase chances for quick deployment.



Fire Shelter Curtains should be rolled back into place and secured with Velcro fasteners when not in use.



VI. REFERENCES

- A. SBFDD SOP S-VII-2 – Wildland Fire Safety
- B. <http://stormkingmtn.com>