

June 20, 2022

EMS <u>NFPA 450 Guide for</u> <u>Emergency Medical</u> <u>Services and Systems</u>



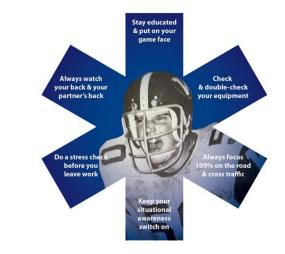
"Scene Safe, BSI." These words have been uttered by every first responder who has ever received medical training. In fact, any responder who has performed a practical exercise for certification knows the first two mandatory skills to be completed on the evaluation checklist are: (1) Ensure the scene is safe before entering; and (2) Don protective gear (BSI – Body Substance Isolation). The assessment of scene safety starts prior to arrival. Verbal clues and cues from dispatch can tip a responder off to a potentially dangerous scene. This may be a best-case scenario because the responder will be on heightened awareness.

Situational awareness in EMS is defined by six steps:

- 1. Perceive the scene for critical clues.
- 2. **Process** the information gathered to develop an initial mental model of the scene.
- Predict what's going to happen if the responders don't intervene.
- 4. **Decide** how to most effectively respond.
- 5. Act based on the known information.
- 6. Communicate and coordinate with other members of the response team.

DO YOU HAVE PAR?

One of the primary purposes of a Personnel Accountability Report (PAR) is to ensure the incident commander and safety officer know where crews are and that all members are accounted for.



- <u>Episode 323 EMS crew near-miss from exposure to Methyl</u> <u>Bromide, Part 1</u>
- Episode 324 EMS crew near-miss from exposure to Methyl Bromide, Part 2
- Episode 308 Responders Overcome by Carbon Monoxide, Part 1
- Episode 309 Responders Overcome by Carbon Monoxide, Part 2
- Episode 238 Complacency almost killed us on an EMS call
- <u>Episode 252 A conversation with thought-leader Dr. Burton</u>
 <u>Clark</u>