

TACTICAL DECISION GAMES

Self-Rescue Considerations:

The first thing that you should have done prior to operating on the fire ground is to make sure you are wearing the appropriate PPE including SCBA. You should always make sure your PALS and your radio are working correctly for these items may be your saving grace. A couple of personal items to carry would be a flashlight; that may assist you, a knife; to get you out of potential entanglement situations, and a tool (Axe); that may help you cut through a wall.

Considerations to increase your survivability: You must be trained and prepared to conserve your bottle. Skip breathing or relaxation techniques may help. Having and following company SOPs should be in place and should be what saves you. A RIC Team ready to respond should be in the door as soon as they hear that you're in trouble. Try to stay in place, near a wall if possible and activate your PALS.

Specific Radio Communications:

Your agency should have SOPs so that you know how to communicate via the radio. You should already be on a TAC frequency and have direct contact with your assigned team Supervisor (Ventilation Ops).

FF: "Ventilation Supervisor, Firefighter Hayek"

VS: "Ventilation Supervisor, go ahead"

FF: "Firefighter down...repeat Firefighter down"

VS: Should confirm and activate the RIC Team

FF: "Firefighter Hayek, fall through B side roof, located in a bathroom, unable to ambulate, activating PALS"