Aware, Alert, Ahead & Alive

How To Do Your Job Effectively When Things Are Trying To Kill You
The overall rate of injuries and illnesses among EMS workers is 6X higher than the national average.
The rate of transportation injuries is 30 times higher than the U.S. average.
Violence-related injuries: 22 times higher in EMS than national average.
Assault fatality rate among EMS providers is 7x higher than for health care workers.
Why Are Firefighters & EMS Facing Such Hostility?

Author: Jerry Smith, The EmergencyGrapevine.com

Firefighters and EMS personnel around the world continue to be attacked and assaulted with deadly force.
To be more SAFE and EFFECTIVE Responders
Situational Awareness

Defined as

• “Knowing what is going on so you can figure out what to do.”

And

• "What you need to know to not be surprised."
Information does NOT DEMAND your attention

You MUST seek / scan for critical clues & cues
WATCH OUT!
It's Right There!

Tunnel Vision
Attention Triggers

- Sudden flash
- Sudden loud sound
- Sudden face
- Sudden large / close object
- Others looking / pointing
Scan Triggers

- Change in location (including arrival)
- Change in task (including receiving assignment)
- Change in resources (tools, water, crew, etc.)
- Change in conditions (or conditions do not change)

YOU MUST ACTIVELY...

- PERCEIVE, PROCESS, PREDICT
- DECIDE, TAKE ACTION, COMMUNICATE & COORD.
# Cooper’s Colors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WHITE</strong></td>
<td>Unprepared and unready to take action. If you are attacked in White you will probably die unless your adversary is totally inept.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>YELLOW</strong></td>
<td>Prepared, alert and relaxed. Good situational awareness.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ORANGE</strong></td>
<td>Specific alert to probably danger. Ready to take action.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RED</strong></td>
<td>Action Mode. Totally committed to the emergency at hand.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BLACK</strong></td>
<td>System overload. Breakdown of physical &amp; mental Performance.</td>
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Condition White?
Hazard Zones

**Cold**
- Gather Information on hazard & protection

**Warm**
- Observe for immediate hazard & protection

**Hot**
- Actively engaged with stuff trying to kill you
RED FLAGS
may be large and obvious
RED FLAGS
may be small and inconspicuous
WATCH OUT!
Size Up
Predict the Situation

It is going in this direction

At this rate

With these results if we don’t intervene
RED FLAGS

may crop up a little at a time
RED FLAGS

- Uncooperative
- Parroting
- Drugs/Alcohol
- Disrespect
- Intimidation
- Threats (no opt)
- Hx of Violence
- Touching
- Trapped
- Restraint
- Bad Bystanders
- Gut Feeling
Crew Resource Management

If You See Something, Say Something

If you are in charge, LISTEN!
Man bites paramedic in the Loop

Police: Man Attacked Paramedics Who Tried To Help Him

July 13, 2011 12:28 PM
Motorist jailed after attacking paramedics

SUMTERVILLE — A Sumter County motorist cursed at a driver he rear-ended as he ran from a crash, only to be brought back to the scene, where he attacked paramedics while trying to run off.
Dickson paramedic attacked by two men

Posted: Dec 05, 2014 4:52 PM EST
Updated: Dec 19, 2014 4:52 PM EST

DICKSON, TN (WSMV) - Investigators in Dickson are searching for two men who attacked a paramedic.

Police said the EMS worker responded to a call for help when he was jumped by two men while he was at work.

"I believe he was of the mindset that he was going to help someone who was having trouble breathing," said Det. Josh Ethridge with the Dickson Police Department.

The paramedic didn't realize he was about to become the victim of a crime.

"The last thing he ever would've expected, I'm sure, would to be attacked by two people," Ethridge said.
Paramedic attacked while treating patient

Posted: Mon 8:38 AM, Oct 06, 2014

By: Matt McGovern Email

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS (WOAI) - A patient being treated inside an ambulance turned on a paramedic and attacked her.

It happened early Monday morning as the patient was being taken to a hospital.

Police say the patient began to choke the paramedic.

The EMT driving the ambulance stopped and the patient jumped out and
Car Crash Patient Attacked Philly Paramedics, Union Says

Posted: Jun 17, 2013 1:30 PM EDT
Updated: Jul 01, 2013 1:31 PM EDT

PHILADELPHIA - Two paramedics were injured Monday morning when a patient apparently attacked them and tried to steal a fire engine.

Fielding more calls, city EMTs often attacked, injured

By David Abel, Globe Staff | August 29, 2007
One had his nose broken four times. Another was attacked with cinder blocks dropped off the roof of a housing project. Others have been stabbed with drug-filled syringes, chased by dogs, and strafed by gunfire after arriving at crime scenes before the shooting stopped.
The police chief says the man is an addict who had demanded drugs from paramedics previously.

OOLOGAH -- A man who was jailed Tuesday after he allegedly stalked and stabbed an Oologah paramedic the day before has a history of demanding drugs from and making threats to emergency personnel, a police chief said.

In the past 12 months, Allen Dallas Weddle, 45, who was arrested on allegations that he stabbed Emily O'Banion, has requested transport 18 times from the Oologah-Talala Emergency Medical Services District, Oologah Police Chief Novale Thompson said.

The calls centered on Weddle's attempts to satisfy what Thompson called a prescription-drug addiction.
Update: Revived man who attacked paramedics...

Updated: Wednesday, September 3 2014, 06:17 PM EDT

WTOV9.com

BROOKE COUNTY, W.Va. - After a manhunt that lasted more than 2 hours, police have found a man who allegedly attacked paramedics who had just revived him from an overdose, then fled Wednesday afternoon on the West Virginia side of the Ohio River.
Don’t Train Until You Get It Right...
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