

CORNING JOINT FIRE DISTRICT

Personal Safety Systems Policy

Adopted: October 30, 2019

Revised:

Policy #:	
Policy:	Personal Safety Systems Policy
Effective Date:	October 30, 2019
Authority:	Labor Law §27-a and 12NYCRR, Part 800.7
Cross-reference:	

PURPOSE: The purpose of this document is to describe the Corning Joint Fire District's ("Fire District") policy for the assessment, training and distribution of personal safety systems (PSS), as required under Labor Law §27-a and 12NYCRR, Part 800.7.

SCOPE: This policy refers to the need to establish a comprehensive PSS which includes an annual assessment, comprehensive training and the distribution of the selected required safety equipment. This policy applies to all interior, Class A firefighters, of the Fire District.

POLICY: The Fire District Chief will deliver or cause to be delivered a risk assessment, as part of the requirements of 12 NYCRR, Part 800.7, to the Board of Fire Commissioners on an annual basis. This Annual Risk Assessment will include, but will not be limited to; all requirements as stated in NYS Law, SOP's with regard to PSS, and PSS equipment selections.

The Fire District will provide training and education to its members on the use of a personal safety system (PSS). This training is provided to ensure the safety of our members. In order to conform to New York State Law, each Class A member will be issued a personal safety system. The PSS is to be used in emergency situations where there is no other way out of or off of a structure. Each Class A member shall be trained in the use of the PSS and the Mayday procedure. The systems used are identified on Exhibit 'A', attached hereto (*example: Gemtor 541 class two safety harness, an FDNY hook and a fifty-foot piece of 9mm Kevlar life safety rope or equivalent equipment.*) Only PSS issued by the Fire District is to be used.

PROCEDURE: Each member, who is classified as an interior, Class A firefighter, shall train in the use of and be proficient with the PSS. The proficiency shall be demonstrated at a suitable training simulator. Each firefighter requiring a PSS will qualify annually. The Chief's Office will be responsible for documentation of all training and for issuing the systems to members. Drills shall be held on an as needed basis to make sure all members have the opportunity to demonstrate their proficiency. A member will locate a suitable exit, remove the enclosure, hook himself or herself up using the system and either lower themselves to the ground safely **or** verbalize competency and proficiency in the escape procedure to be utilized to the satisfaction of the instructor. This shall be done while in full PPE and while wearing SCBA. A safety line shall be used. The instructors will

stop the member to hook up the safety line. This shall be done within two minutes. The member will be proficient when this is accomplished.

In lieu of a firefighter actually performing a descent from an elevated platform utilizing the PSS, a firefighter who is able to demonstrate through words and actions his or her proficiency in the use of PSS will be deemed to have successfully complied with the annual training requirement as stated in 12 NYCRR, Part 800.7(g).

Failure to complete the training outlined above will change the class of a firefighter from interior Class A to exterior Class B. A member may be given the opportunity to prove proficiency, at the discretion of the Chief.

PSS shall be inventoried for date placed into service and shall be cleaned, maintained, and inspected as per 12NYCRR Part 800.7.

Firefighters will be trained on the procedure for inspecting PSS. Monthly inspections of PSS will be performed by the firefighter and a written record of the inspection will be maintained. Failure of a firefighter to perform the requisite inspections may serve as the basis for disciplinary action including change in active status or suspension.