Bath Township Fire Department			Standard Operating Guideline	
Section Special Operations	**Referral No.** SO-06	**Subject:** Vehicle Extrication & Rescue	**Date Issued** 03/08	**Date Revised**

Purpose:

- To provide guidelines for safe emergency response to motor vehicle crashes where entrapments have occurred and extrication is required.

Scope:

- This standard operating guideline shall apply to all personnel.

Responsibilities:

- Officer
  - Ensure that personnel respond properly.
  - Provide direction based on the Incident Management System.
  - Ensure the safety of all personnel.
- Personnel
  - All personnel have the responsibility of following the direction of Incident Command.
  - All personnel have the responsibility to wear the proper safety equipment and to operate in a safe manor.

Guidelines:

- **Safety is always our first priority**
- Rescue 1309 shall respond with two personnel to all incidents where an entrapment is reported
- Incident command shall be established
- A BIRT will be given upon arrival, noting the number of patients
- Rescue 1309 shall be positioned in an area free of hazards that allows for the use of the extrication tools.
- The scene must be determined safe prior to personnel approaching
- A safety officer will be assigned to oversee the extrication process, ensuring for the safety of all personnel on the scene.
- Turn out gear and proper PPE must be worn by personnel on the scene, to include primary eye protection (Safety glasses or goggles)
- Early notification shall be given to the appropriate hospital or hospitals.
- Air medical transport may be considered if extrication is going to be prolonged.
- Contact with the patient shall be made prior to working on the vehicle.
  - Precautions shall be taken to ensure the safety of the patient during the extrication.
- An EMS person will be assigned to each patient, and will remain with that patient until the extrication has been completed. C-Spine protection shall be maintained.

- Vehicles shall be stabilized prior to any procedure being performed.
  - This shall be accomplished by the use of cribbing or tension buttresses.
- The batteries shall be disconnected to ensure that air bags do not deploy unexpectedly.
  - An air bag is to be considered very dangerous if it has not deployed.
  - Rescuers should take precautions not to get between the air bag and the patient whenever possible.
- All glass shall be removed prior to cutting or prying on a vehicle, taking care to protect the patient at all times.
- Doors should be utilized whenever possible, try before you pry.
- Extrication tools will be used only in the manner that they were designed.
- **Personnel should be familiar with the tools prior to using them**
- Rescuers must be careful to avoid sharp edges when removing the patients.
- Patients should be transported to the most appropriate facility.