

# BATON ROUGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

General Order  
No. 146

Effective Date  
09-01-2016

Revised Date  
XX-XX-XXXX

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Subject: Trauma Kits

Reviewed 9/1/16

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## PURPOSE

Law enforcement officers, other emergency service personnel and bystander civilians injured by penetrating objects may suffer from uncontrolled hemorrhage. With the goal of maximizing survival, Self Aid–Buddy Aid (SABA) addresses optimal care that could be utilized in these situations. It is the policy of Baton Rouge Police Department to conduct due diligence for training and education for officers and to match the best available options to the situation when appropriate and reasonable. Within the scope of their training and policy, officers shall utilize SABA in the on-duty and off-duty responses as they deem necessary. The three goals of SABA are save preventable deaths, prevent additional casualties and complete the mission.

## DEFINITIONS

### **Self Aid-Buddy Aid**

SABA is a training course for BRPD officers. Training will include control techniques including use of tourniquets, pressure dressings, and other rescue techniques.

### **Tourniquet**

Defined as any limb constrictive devise, whether improvised or commercially manufactured, used in an attempt to stop extremity bleeding.

### **Pressure Dressing**

Pressure dressings are adequate to stop most cases of hemorrhage, whether it occurs from the extremities or other parts of the body.

### **Chest Seal**

An occlusive dressing designed for treating open chest wounds (also known as a sucking chest wound), a life-threatening situation that could lead to tension pneumothorax.

### **Gauze**

A thin fabric loosely woven used to cover wounds and reduce blood loss.

## PROCEDURES

### **I. Assessment of the Injured**

- A. Assessment of the injured should only be done after the threat has been stopped. While assessing the injured officer are to remain vigilant of other threat that might be present. The assessment should follow the "MARCH" acronym to identify those persons in the greatest need of treatment.

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B. "MARCH"

1. Massive Bleeding

- a. Use tourniquet to stop massive bleeding on extremity wounds, high on extremity.
- b. Use gauze with at least 3 minutes of direct pressure on wounds not treatable with tourniquet.

2. Airway

- a. Unconscious without airway obstruction
  - 1. Head tilt/ Chin lift maneuver
  - 2. Nasal airway
  - 3. Recovery position
- b. Conscious with airway obstruction or pending airway obstruction
  - 1. Head tilt/ Chin lift maneuver
  - 2. Allow patient to assume position of comfort to best protect the airway.

3. Respiration

Place occlusive dressing on all open wounds between the jaw and waist line.

4. Circulation

- a. Reassess any tourniquets previously applied, add pressure bandage if able.
- b. Address any bleeding not previously addressed.

5. Hypothermia/ Head Injury

- a. Hypothermia
  - 1. Minimize patient's exposure to the elements.
  - 2. Keep protective gear on patient as much as possible.
  - 3. Use rescue blanket.
- b. Head Injury
  - 1. Evaluate head
  - 2. Monitor patient's mental status.

C. Patients that are treated and require medical care should be handed over to EMS. A detailed explanation given to EMS personnel as to what treatment was given to the patient.

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- D. All BRPD officers shall be trained and equipped to provide basic emergency hemorrhage control.
- E. Replacement of used supplies for the trauma kit are available at the Firearms Training Unit.