



*Pride in Service with Integrity*

**BROWARD SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE RESCUE  
AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**



## **SAFETY ADVISORY**

### **SCBA Polycarbonate Facepiece**

**SA 13-01**

**SAFETY  
ADVISORY**

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DISTRICT: All Battalions  
DATE: 1/4/2013  
RE: SCBA Polycarbonate

BSOFRES recently experienced SCBA face piece lens polycarbonate thermal degradation in three masks during live fire and flashover simulator training evolutions.

Per the NFPA, such degradation has been found to occur within the industry and does not compromise the health and safety of the wearer. As a result, all current SCBA facepiece lenses are considered to be safe to use.

Direct from the NFPA Safety Alert Notice, published on July 2, 2012 “any SCBA face piece lens found to have cracks, crazing, bubbling, deformation, discoloring, gaps, or holes, should be immediately removed from service and a replacement issued.”

All personnel should continue to perform daily SCBA gear inspections, and inform up their Chain of Command for any necessary replacement as per the NFPA guidance language noted above. Additionally, the JOSH Committee will include discussion of this issue in an upcoming meeting. Click the NFPA link below for additional information:

<http://www.nfpa.org/itemDetail.asp?categoryID=2616&itemid=57727&searchString=&searchCat=>