SUBMERGED VEHICLE WORKSHOP Naples, Florida

March 15, 2013



Multiple Scenarios Were Presented In Which A Vehicle Was Submerged In The Canal With Members Of The CCSO Dive Team Inside. During Each Scenario, Dr. Gorgon Giesbrecht Gave A Minute-By-Minute Account Of What Happens To The Body And Strategies For Survival.



What To Do, What To Do?

How Do We Educate The Public

How Do We Educate Professionals?

Criteria;

Simple, Clear, Accurate, Memorable, Doable



The Following Are The Action Points From Dr. Gorgon Giesbrecht On How To Save Yourself And Your Children Should Your Car End Up In A Canal Or River:

- No. 1 Tip? When Your Car Goes Underwater, Don't Touch Your Cellphone. The First Minute Is Crucial, And It's A Waste Of Your Time Trying To Call 911, He Said.
- More Important Is Rolling Down Your Windows Before The Water Reaches Them.
- Seat Belts, Windows, Children, Out
- Children Should Be Helped Out Of The Car From Oldest To Youngest. After Rolling Down The Windows, Older Children Should Be Told To Swim Out And Hold Onto The Car So Parents Can Help Younger Ones Out Of Car Seats.

Automatic Exits:

- Window Breaker
- Window Opener

Emergency Dispatch:

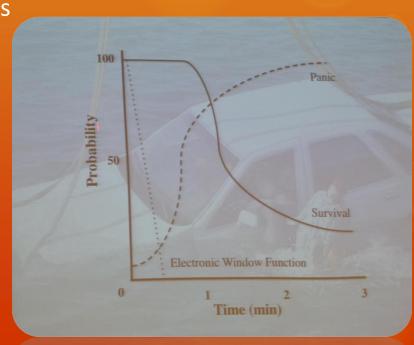
Refocus From Location To Self Rescue Instruction

What To Do In The First 30-120 Seconds

Emergency Dispatch:

 Refocus From Location To Self Rescue Instruction

What To Do In The First 30-120 Seconds



- 1. Sinking Vehicle (Caller Inside)
- Stay Calm And Listen Carefully So That I Can Help You Get Out. I Will Tell You Exactly What To Do Next
- Have Everyone Release Their Seatbelts And Unlock The Doors
- Can You Open The Rear Passenger Window All The Way? If You Have Electric Windows, Make Sure Your Key Is On
 - > Yes-4
- No Can You Open The Front Passenger Window All The Way?
 - > Yes-4
 - ➢ No-2



- 2. Sinking Vehicle (Windows Won't Open)
- Move To The Back Seat, Where You Need To Try To Break The Rear Passenger Window
- Do You Have A Center Punch, Hammer, Or Anything Heavy And Hard To Break The Window With?
 - ➢ No-3
- YES- Use This Object And Hit The Window Near The Door Frame,
 Closest To The Front Of The Vehicle
- Have You Been Able To Break The Window?
 - > Yes-4
 - ➢ No-5



- 3. Sinking Vehicle (Break Window)
- Is There Anything Else Around That Is Heavy And Hard? Check Your Glove Compartment And Under Your Seat
- YES Use This Object And Hit The Window Near The Door Frame,
 Closest To The Front Of The Vehicle.
- No Lie Down On Your Back And Use Both Feet Together To Kick The Rear Window Near The Door Frame Closest To The Front Of The Vehicle.
- Have You Been Able To Break The Window?
 - > Yes-4
 - ➢ No-5



- 4. Sinking Vehicle (Window Opened)
- Roll That Window All The Way Down
- Are There Any Children Or Anyone Else Who Need Assistance With Their Seatbelts?
- Yes- Starting With The Oldest, Help Them Undo Their Seatbelts And Have Them Get Out Through The Open Window. Push All The Children Out Ahead Of You
- Get Out Of The Vehicle Now And Swim To The Nearest Shore. If You Need To, You Can Hold Onto The Floating Vehicle Until You Catch Your Breath And Determine Where To Swim

Rules

- 1. The Dispatcher Must Weigh The Facts Of Each Situation, As Conditions May Change Rapidly (Sinking, Wet Phone Problems Car Rolling Over, Car Upside Down, Car Moving In Current), And Must Navigate Among The Most Appropriate Advice Items In This Protocol
- 2. At Some Point, The Phone Will Likely Short Out. This Can Happen At Any Time. Certain Instructions Must Be Given Early In The Public Assistance Instruction Sequence, Prior To Losing Contact With The Caller, To Prepare Them As Much As Possible For The Escape Attempt



5. Sinking Vehicle (Underwater)

- At Some Point Your Phone Will Stop Working So I Am Going To Tell You Exactly What To Do Next.
- Your Car Is Going To Continue To Fill With Water. Just Before The Water Covers Your Heard Take A Deep Breath
- Once You Are Completely Under Water You Should Be Able To Open A Door And Get To The Surface
- Keep Trying To Open The Door. If It Won't Open Try To Break The Window Out And Follow The Bubbles To The Surface.
- Vehicle Is Not Completely Submerged
- Look Again For An Object That Is Heavy And Hard (Check You Glove Compartment And Under Your Seats

