



Contra Costa County Fire Protection District

Battalion 8

Incident Notification

DATE: July 5th, 2018

TIME OF ALARM: 1646 hrs.

TYPE OF ALARM: Hazardous Materials

LOCATION: Mcavoy's Yacht Harbor

RESPONSE: E86, HM21, E11, BC8, EMS 8, M7

ASSISTING AGENCIES: Con EMS, Contra Costa County Health Department, East Bay Regional Parks Police

TOTAL FIRE PERSONNEL AT SCENE: 10

Contra Costa Fire received a call for assistance from East Bay Regional Parks Police when an officer approached a vehicle with a person that appeared to be slumped over in the driver's seat. As the officer got close to the car, he noticed a sign taped to the window that stated "Toxic Gas H₂S Do not approach."

Once the first responding Fire Captain arrived on scene and discussed the situation with PD, they isolated the area and requested our Hazardous Materials unit to respond. H₂S also known as Hydrogen Sulfide is a very toxic gas that can be created with common household items and has become common in persons that want to commit suicide. With these factors, it was decided to treat this scene as a Hazardous Materials incident and take all necessary precautions in mitigating this situation.

After carefully evaluating the scene, fire personnel were able to gain entry into the vehicle and determine in fact, the victim was deceased. The team also was able to verify the vehicle did have Hydrogen Sulfide inside. They also identified various bottles of household items used to create that chemical reaction. The victim was removed and decontaminated for the Coroner. All of the chemical products inside the vehicle were removed and rendered to a safe state. The vehicle was carefully checked to further hazards prior to turning over the EBRP Police for processing. These type of incidents are very intensive and time consuming. All units were committed to this call for just over 5 hours. No injuries to first responders occurred.

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