

Beneath the Sea

Public Safety Diver Conference

Friday March 22, 2024

Sign in 0830 to 0845: Lectures begin at 0900

Meadowlands Expo Center Fee: \$100.00

Lunch included.

It is impossible to eliminate risk for public safety dive teams Public Safety Diving is a dangerous job. Here is a day-long course demonstrating how technology and information can help minimize that risk and keep you and your team working safely. Public Safety Diving is a daylong program covering some of the timeliest topics in public safety diving. Each one is designed to help you and your team be safer in the water.

Words Matter Treating Public Safety Diving as a Technical Rescue

Presenter: Buck Buchanan

In this presentation, we will be comparing and contrasting the front line public safety as it pertains to Public Safety Diving

Buck Buchanan is the owner/operator of Dive 911. Buck has served in public safety for over 30 years. He is a Commercial Dive Supervisor as well as a Salvage Master. Buck brings a unique and professional view to public safety diving and is an entertaining and informative speaker.

Developing the Last Seen Point & Linear Chronology Theory for PSD

Presenter: Josh Gibbs

The presentation will cover information gathering and processing used for developing the last seen point in missing persons in the water and the use of The Linear Chronology Theory to define a sonar search area. Using the Linear Chronology Theory with effective sonar deployment will increase your ability to resolve difficult open-water search cases. Actual case studies showcasing the techniques and theories presented will be covered.

Josh Gibbs is a sergeant with the Mobile, Alabama Police Department. The Daphne Search and Rescue Unit (DSRU) is an all-volunteer first-responder team based in the City of Daphne. The team responds primarily to water search and rescue missions in an area covering approximately 300 square miles of waterways, including the northern half of Mobile Bay and the Five Rivers Delta areas. The unit also provides land-based search and rescue services for Daphne and the surrounding areas.

Incorporated in 1976, the Daphne Search & Rescue Unit has established itself as a non-profit — 501(c)3 — organization, with a majority of its operating funds coming from donations. Beneath the Sea extends their thanks to both the Mobile Police Department and Daphne Search and Rescue for giving Josh time off to be with us.

Techniques in Ice Diving

Presenter: "Butch" Hendrick

Drawing on real-life case studies and scenarios this talk will illuminate the potential outcomes of delayed or inadequate treatment in diving emergencies. Through these narratives, the audience will gain a visceral understanding of the life-or-death consequences that can result from delayed recognition, diagnosis, and management of diving-related injuries.

Butch Hendrick has trained thousands of divers and water rescuers for more than 50 years in more than 15 countries in aspects from instructor training to public safety diving, rescue, and underwater movement. He is a major innovator, equipment designer, standard-setter, and continuous contributor to the dive and water rescue/recovery communities. Butch Hendrick is considered by many to be the father of diving rescue. Over the years, Butch has devoted his life to raising standards and keeping divers and water rescue personnel safe.

Oceanbotic: using Technology and Divers within Public Safety Operations

Presenter: Waylon Price

This presentation reveals the importance of cutting-edge underwater drone technology. Explore this rich history and exciting future of ROVs, along with visuals, open discussions, and insights into their vital role in law enforcement Public Safety Diving."

Waylon Price, Sales Manager at Oceanbotic Inc., is well versed on his subject and highly qualified to speak on the dynamics of drones in public safety diving.

Communication in Modern Public Safety

Presenter: Joseph Toth

Employing Underwater Communications, through Operational Risk Management and the need for Public Safety Divers to use underwater communications. This overview of Hard Wire and Wireless Communications will explain how both systems operate and which is best for your Public Safety Dive Team. He will also present a Full-Face Masks overview and the need for their use in operational diving. This presentation will include an Introduction to the proper care and maintenance of communications equipment and full-face masks.

Joe Toth started his career with OTS in 2021 in the Sales Department and is responsible for East Coast Regional Sales, including Public Safety, Commercial, Military, and Retail Shops. Before joining OTS, Joe served a 30-year career with the US Coast Guard, retiring as Chief Warrant Officer Diver Specialty (CWO4) and completing his final tour as the Coast Guard Liaison Officer attached to Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center, Panama City Florida. Joe completed tours as a Dive Officer in Guam, San Diego, and Panama City, working with numerous DOD, DHS, and Local Government Agencies. During his last tour, Joe annually conducted the only DHS / DOD Cold Water Ice Diving Training Course, a 12-day course designed to teach military divers the basic, advanced knowledge and techniques needed for operating and diving in this austere environment.

The Lethal Consequences of Delayed Treatment: Critical Diving Injuries That Demand Immediate Intervention

Presenter: Andrea Zaferes & Chantelle Newman

Drawing upon real-life case studies and scenarios this talk will illuminate the potential outcomes of delayed or inadequate treatment in diving emergencies. Through these narratives, the audience will gain a visceral understanding of the life-or-death consequences resulting from delayed recognition, diagnosis, and management of diving-related injuries. Furthermore, the presentation will provide practical guidance on recognizing the early signs and symptoms of these critical diving injuries, empowering divers and professionals to take swift and decisive action in emergencies. Key strategies for delivering immediate first aid, activating emergency response protocols, and coordinating with medical professionals will be underscored as essential components in mitigating the risks of fatal outcomes. In conclusion, this talk serves as a wake-up call to the diving community, emphasizing the sobering reality that certain diving injuries demand urgent attention and swift intervention to prevent tragic outcomes. By shedding light on the lethal consequences of delayed treatment in diving emergencies, this presentation aims to instill a sense of urgency and preparedness among divers and stakeholders, ensuring that safety and swift action are prioritized in every underwater excursion.

Andrea Zaferes started teaching diving with Dr. Lee Somers in 1983 and has devoted her life to teaching thousands of divers in public safety diving, instructor training, rescue, buoyancy control, and underwater investigation. She is a noted author and award winner, including the BTS and DAN Rolex Diver of the Year awards for contributions to diving safety and education. Andrea is Vice President of Lifeguard Systems.

Chantelle Newman is a distinguished figure in the world of scuba diving and underwater safety, known for her unwavering commitment to diver health and the advancement of pre-hospital care. A true pioneer in her field, Chantelle has earned a place in the prestigious Women Divers Hall of Fame, a testament to her significant contributions and relentless dedication. Her extensive knowledge and expertise in diving medicine are reflected in her role with DAN Europe (Divers Alert Network), where she has been instrumental in promoting safety protocols and emergency procedures within the diving community. Beyond her instructional roles, Chantelle is also the inventive mind behind various pre-hospital courses, tailored to equip divers and non-divers with life-saving skills in critical, out-of-hospital scenarios. Her specialty in diving medicine ensures that each course is grounded in evidence-based practice and real-world applications, empowering individuals to act confidently in the face of medical emergencies.