



November 26, 2008

To: Greg Ryan
The Ryan Escape Bar Company

Greg,

The Hillsborough Township Fire District had the opportunity to participate in our annual "Firefighter Survival" weekend we have conducted for the past five years. The weekend consists of multiple hands-on stations over the two days where firefighters are put in situations designed to test their situational awareness to realize when conditions are such that they should back out. It is also designed to place them in situations where they find themselves trapped and self rescue techniques are necessary for survival.

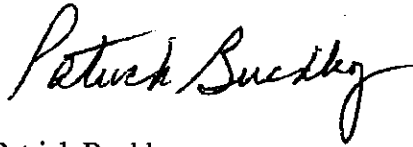
One of the stations is the "Window-Bail" station which we have been doing each of the five years. This station teaches the firefighters to find an anchor point in darkened out conditions and use their escape system to perform a head-first bail. They are also taught to utilize a Halligan Bar placed diagonally across the corner of the window as an anchor point. The firefighters are nervous using the Halligan as it does not offer a positive anchor point due to the lack of a breach tool on the forked end. If the firefighter does not keep tension on the escape rope, the Halligan Bar has a tendency to move and could potentially dislodge thereby eliminating the anchor point allowing to firefighter to fall if it is not caught before the head-first bail is made.

This past July while attending the Firehouse EXPO in Baltimore I stopped by your booth and was interested to see the Ryan Escape Bar. It's design makes perfect sense and I was interested to try it out. When I received the tool I tried it out personally and made numerous bail outs and I became a believer. The concept is so simple I am surprised it has taken so long for this modification to be offered in the fire service.

During our recent "Firefighter Survival" weekend, the firefighters had the opportunity to use the tool during the "Window Bail" station and all who participated were impressed with the effectiveness of the tool as an anchor point. I also used the tool on other

evolutions traditionally utilizing the Halligan Bar such as Forcible Entry, Search, Wall Breaching and it performed as well as the Halligan Bar.

Based on my personal use of the tool (which keep in mind has only been during training evolutions), I would recommend the Ryan Escape Tool to any fire company looking for a versatile tool. You have taken the Halligan Bar which has been a staple in the fire service since 1948 and made it better.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick Buckley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "P".

Patrick Buckley
Assistant Fire Chief / Training Officer
Hillsborough Township Fire Company #2
N.J. Certified Level II Fire Instructor