

## Old St. Paul's Church Heart Attack Scenario

**Setting:** 10 AM Worship Service, 10 minutes into the service. Attendance at service is 100. Team 3 is on duty with 1 member on cameras, 2 members in parking lot and 1 member on inside patrol. Weather is sunny and hot.

**Event:** One of our members of the congregation, who is in his late 40's, leaves the service after telling his wife that he is not feeling well. He proceeds out the narthex door and heads to the parking lot. About half way to the parking lot he collapses and falls in the grass.

### Event Actions:

- SST member on camera sees person fall on ground and radios SST members in parking lot of situation.
- 2 SST members rush to downed person and determine he is unconscious.
- Attending SST members radio for nurse, AED, trauma bag and they start chest compressions.
- Off duty SST members in sanctuary notify 2 nurses in congregation that we have a medical situation outside and grab AED, trauma bag and oxygen bottle located in sanctuary.
- SST Team Leader places 911-Call for emergency medical and proceeds to site with 2<sup>nd</sup> trauma bag.
- Nurses check patient and determine he is having a heart attack, oxygen is placed on patient. AED is setup and deployed by nursing team. Patient soon stabilizes with normal heart rhythm. Patient is conscience and talking.
- Emergency Medical arrives on site. They are briefed by team leader and nursing staff.
- SST team leader radios to SST members inside sanctuary to notify patient's family and bring them out.
- Emergency medical and nurses continue to stabilize patient. SST members back-off from patient and let medical professionals handle the situation.
- Patient is stabilized and is loaded in ambulance for transport.
- SST Members hold traffic and ambulance departs for Catawba Valley Medical, Code 3.
- Family follows ambulance in private auto.
- SST team leader notifies Pastor of Event and Pastor informs congregation.
- Service Continues

**Results of Action:**

- OSP member survives a heart attack and has 3 stints placed the next morning.
- AED and Nurses quick action saves man's life.
- Emergency Medical on site in less than 3 minutes.

**Aftermath:**

- SST Debrief:
  1. Fast action by all contributed to saving a life.
  2. 2 way radio communication proved invaluable
  3. Fully stocked medical supplies & AED were well worth the expense
  4. Training in CPR by SST members helped save a life
  5. SST staff knowing who in congregation is medically qualified resulted in fast professional service to patient
- Additional AED/ CPR training classes are offered to congregation

**Facts & Liability:**

- Deployment of AED by trained medical professionals results in no liabilities for church or medical members.
- Having trained medical professionals on site greatly increased the patient's survival rate.
- Having proper medical equipment on hand greatly increased the patient's survival rate.
- Person making 911 call should request no sirens near location