Vehicle Stabilization

- Objectives
  - Principles of stabilization (how and why)
  - Familiarization of the tools and equipment used to perform the stabilization scenarios listed
  - Stabilize car on its side
  - Stabilize a car on its roof
  - Stabilize car on all fours
  - Perform proper and efficient stabilization of vehicles in each of the scenarios and prepare the vehicle for extrication

- Stabilization
  - Protect the patient – C spine
    - we do not move patients across seats thus possibly causing more harm to them and potential for injury to us with pulling a patient across a seat – remove the entrapment and then safely remove the victim
  - Protect us – no further movement
  - Maximize efficiency of tools – remove suspension qualities to prevent any unwanted movement therefore all force is applied to the specific area for applying pressure or cutting
  - Stabilize as found
  - Sometimes you need to move a vehicle to allow for a safer, quicker, more efficient extrication
    - Pinned against tree or pole
    - Under a load (tractor trailer)
    - Any situation where controlled movement will provide for a better outcome of the patients and can be done safely
  - Cribbing must be on the frame of the vehicle and should be placed to avoid being an obstruction during the extrication – removing the suspension qualities of the vehicle

- Cribbing
  - Cover type of wood, condition of wood and when to dispose of it
  - How to build a box crib, 2x2, 3x3, solid, sloped - capacities

- Car on all fours
  - Use of cribbing vs. step chocks, especially when tires are already deflated
  - Inverted step chocks vs. typical usage
  - We don’t lift the car to then put it down on the cribbing/step chocks, we bring the cribbing up to the load
• Car on its side
  o Initial temporary shoring
  o Proper angle for struts
  o Center of gravity
  o Load the vehicle onto the struts
    ▪ Cover chains and synthetic slings and capacities
    ▪ Cover struts
    ▪ Cover come-along
    ▪ Cover
  o Roof removal – complete vs. partial

• Car on its roof
  o Initial stabilization
  o Egress for patient
  o Cribbing vs. struts
  o Location of U/Nader bolt and Hinges when on its roof
  o Issue with door frame on its roof
  o Roof removal; moving the roof under the car once cut