



GALLANTRY AWARD

GOLD

Presented to

Quentin Power

From 11 to 13 April 2022, days of heavy rain across KwaZulu-Natal led to deadly floods. Particularly hard-hit were areas in and around Durban. At least 435 people died across the province, with an unknown number of people still missing as of 13 April 2022. Several thousand homes were damaged or destroyed. The flooding impacted critical infrastructure, including major roads, transportation, communication and electrical systems, and this damage greatly hampered rescue, recovery and relief efforts.

Quentin Power is being recognised for his courage and determination on 11 April 2022 when he and members of his NSRI Station, along with the national and local emergency services, rendered aid and assistance in multiple flood-related incidents. These incidents occurred along the KwaZulu-Natal coastline and inland due to heavy rainfall, resulting in devastating floods in Durban and surrounding areas.

In particular, we acknowledge Quentin's leadership of his team and his actions in the rescue of over 170 people found in a variety of predicaments down Peter Road where people were found trapped on

house roofs, vehicles, cranes and building windows. By this time, the speed of the water on the main roads was flowing at about 60km an hour. The obstacles the Team faced included fuel tankers rolling past them and dodging floating containers moving rapidly with the surging water. Especially noteworthy is the rescue of a missing security guard in constant rain at 04:30 from a submerged building, together with Johan Muller, discovered while swimming through a construction site to find him. Access to the trapped guard was achieved by smashing a hole through the asbestos roof to free the man and swim him to safety just before the building was fully engulfed. The very relieved guard had been trapped by the rapid water influx jamming the building door and was struggling to breathe by bouncing from the floor to inhale air in the narrow space between the ceiling rafters.

Quentin Power's bravery that day, going to the aid of persons in trouble, in known dangerous conditions, without concern for his safety, was in the very finest traditions of the National Sea Rescue Institute, which we are pleased to recognise with this Gallantry Award Gold.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Velloza'.

Jonathan Velloza
Chairman: Board of Directors



19 July 2024

Date