



GALLANTRY AWARD

SILVER

Presented to

Clifford Ireland

From 11 to the 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. Critical infrastructure, including major roads, transportation, communication and electrical systems, were impacted by the flooding, and this damage greatly hampered rescue, recovery and relief efforts.

Clifford Ireland 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 Clifford's leadership of his Team and his own actions responding to multiple incidents to assist people trapped in vehicles, collapsed houses and flooded buildings, including two Rottweilers, while navigating flooded roads and rock falls. Especially noteworthy was his direct involvement in the rescue of a mother, father and two babies by bridging a flooded, gushing 3m trench with an aluminium ladder to access the now exposed house passage to retrieve the mother, then the babies and finally the father over the precarious bridge to safety.

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

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

Jonathan Velloza
Chairman: Board of Directors



19 July 2024

Date