



# GALLANTRY AWARD

# SILVER

Presented to

## Leslie Ginsberg

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.

Leslie Ginsberg 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 Leslie's part in Quentin Power's Team and his own actions in the joint 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. Although it was Leslie's

birthday when it was reported that truck drivers were trapped on the N2 at Nandi Drive and needed help, Quentin and Leslie Ginsberg took the Jetski and headed out that way to commence rescuing there, with the Jetski at times floating above the trailer, such was the depth of the water on the road. While working to recover casualties to safety, Quentin notes that "at some stages, the rain was so hard that I could not see Leslie on the back of the Jetski". Subsequently, Leslie accompanied Quentin to Riverhorse Valley where people were stuck in trees, on a truck, and where a huge 16-wheeler was washed down the river. More people were trapped on earth-moving equipment. Trucks weighing more than 16 tons were washed off a bridge and found approximately 2km downstream ten metres above a stream that is normally ankle deep and less than two metres wide. On arrival, Quentin and Leslie set to work to recover these trapped people to safety.

Leslie Ginsberg'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 Silver.

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

Jonathan Velloza  
Chairman: Board of Directors



19 July 2024

Date