



**NATIONAL  
SEA RESCUE  
INSTITUTE**

# **GALLANTRY AWARD**

# **SILVER**

Presented to

## **Sean Devine**

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.

Sean Devine 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 Sean's part of Johan Muller's Team and his own actions in the joint rescue of numerous people found in a variety of predicaments down Peter Road where people were found trapped on house roofs, vehicles, cranes and building windows. Especially noteworthy is

Sean's and 3 colleagues' support of Johan working with SRU and IPSS evacuating about ten houses in Verulam, and then at Flamingo Heights assisting people in the river as well as recovering two deceased people and another two alive who had been missing. Later, they were called to Peter Road to help Quentin Power and Station 5 recover people from the rising waters. Two members from Durban Fire were already in the water with a couple of private people assisting. Quentin launched a Jetski with Leslie Ginsberg and started pulling people out. Station 5 had brought their 4.7-metre rescue vessel Rescue 5 Bravo with them and while the Station 5 crew of Jonathan Kellermann, Amy Coetzee and Jazmynn Eksteen assisted on the ground, Kyle Meyer, Johan Muller and Sean Devine operated Station 5's Rescue 5 Bravo to pull many to safety. Later still, Sean and his Team evacuated several people in the Verulam area, notably the family of a mom and baby, from a collapsing building.

Sean Devine'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.

Jonathan Velloza  
Chairman: Board of Directors



19 July 2024

Date