



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

DATE	September 17, 2024
TITLE	Police Chief/AGM of Public Safety, Roberto Filice, will present Lifesaving Medals to Officer Erin Herlihy, Officer Grant Boysen, Officer Jacob Epstein, Sgt. Tom Starick and Sgt. Gary Castaneda, a Distinguished Service Medal to Officer Keith Gilkerson, and a Distinguished Service Medal and a Lifesaving Medal to Officer Jay Dowke
DIVISION	Public Safety
FROM	Joe Cotcher, Police Captain Roberto Filice, Assistant General Manager Public Safety/Chief of Police
APPROVED	Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

RECOMMENDATION

Join in the Special Presentation to present Lifesaving Medals to Police Officers Erin Herlihy, Grant Boysen, and Jacob Epstein, and Sergeants Tom Starick and Gary Castaneda, a Distinguished Service Medal to Officer Keith Gilkerson, and a Distinguished Service Medal and Lifesaving Medal to Officer Jay Dowke.

BACKGROUND

The Lifesaving Award may be awarded to persons who have acted in the furtherance of human life. It may be awarded based on the following criteria:

- (a) May be awarded to any person directly involved in the action.
- (b) The action shall be exceptional and in emergency and/or extraordinary conditions.
- (c) Use of tactical skills or verbal approaches to de-escalate a situation that has the potential for a deadly force outcome may be considered if the outcome results in sustaining human life.
- (d) An act of CPR or other approved lifesaving measure will only constitute recognition under the Lifesaving Award if, in fact, a life was saved.
- (e) The Lifesaving Award shall be silver with a red and white ribbon.

The Distinguished Service Medal is the Department's third highest award. It may be awarded to employees who distinguish themselves, either by performing a single act that is outstanding, or by performing a series of actions that are outstanding, often over a consistent period. The Distinguished Service Medal differs from the Medal of Merit in that:

- (a) Generally, there was no immediate threat to the employee's life or safety
- (b) In the case of outstanding service, it will be awarded for a somewhat lesser degree of achievement.
- (c) Whereas the Medal of Merit recipient shall have contributed greatly to the overall operation of the Department, the Distinguished Service Medal may have impacted a smaller portion of the Department's Operation.

- (d) The Distinguished Service Medal is a higher honor than a commendation. Generally, the recipient of the Distinguished Service Medal will combine a particular outstanding action with a consistently high level of performance.
- (e) The Distinguished Service Medal shall be silver with a green ribbon.

ANALYSIS

Lifesaving Medals will be presented to:

Officer Jacob Epstein – Administered lifesaving tourniquet to shooting victim at Skyline High School
5/23/24

Officer Erin Herlihy – Drowning Rescue at Lake Del Valle, 6/9/24

Sergeant Tom Starick - Drowning Rescue at Lake Del Valle, 6/9/24

Officer Grant Boysen - Drowning Rescue at Lake Del Valle, 6/30/24

Sergeant Gary Castaneda - Drowning Rescue at Lake Del Valle, 6/30/24

Officer Jay Dowke - Drowning Rescue at Lake Del Valle, 7/7/24

Distinguished Service Medals will be presented to:

Officer Jay Dowke – Overall dedication and commitment to law enforcement throughout 35 years with EBRPD Public Safety Police Department.

Officer Keith Gilkerson – First responder to shooting incident at Skyline High School, he attended to victims and witnesses and assisted in the search for the suspects.