

Sea Tow Recognizes Local Lifesavers

For several Sea Tow Captains, going above and beyond is just part of the job

TAMPA, Fla. – [Sea Tow Services International, Inc.](#), America's leading professional on-water assistance provider, honored several captains at the company's annual Sea Tow Awards Banquet held on November 16th for going above and beyond the call of duty and saving lives during the last year. The event was a highlight of the organization's 2017 Annual Meeting, which brought Sea Tow operators from across the country to the Embassy Suites Downtown Convention Center in Tampa from Nov. 14-16, 2017.

Sea Tow CEO Captain Joseph Frohnhoefer III, presented the following awards during the ceremony:

- **For Lifesaving Efforts:**

- **Captain Chris Allen of Sea Tow Palm Beach** for [locating and rescuing six missing divers](#) who had been separated from their 38' Burpee dive boat three nautical miles east of Jupiter Inlet.
- **Captain Mike Dillon of Sea Tow Fort Myers** for discovering and saving two men who were struggling to tread water without life jackets after their 17' Boston Whaler had capsized near York Island.
- **Captains Tom Carter and Mike Dillon of Sea Tow Fort Myers** for rescuing six family members from their capsized 17' Larson after the vessel had been swamped by a passing yacht on the Caloosahatchee River.
- **Captains Cody Catapano, Zachary Willis and Raven Bolster of Sea Tow Crystal Coast** for [fighting rough seas to save three passengers](#) whose 44' sailboat had capsized and sank near Cape Lookout Shoals.
- **Captain Ryan Saporito of Sea Tow Wrightsville Beach** for braving deteriorating conditions to save five passengers after their 22' Sea Chaser was pushed into rocks, causing the vessel to capsize.
- **Captains Clay Hughes and Kendrick Schwartz of Sea Tow Ocean Isle** for [saving two small girls and their parents](#) after their 24' cabin cruiser had lost all power and capsized near Shallotte Inlet.

- **For Efforts Above and Beyond:**

- **Captain Zachary Willis of Sea Tow Crystal Coast** won two awards for twice locating and rescuing missing kayakers whose boats had capsized during a storm.
- **Captain Quincy Eagles of Sea Tow Fort Myers** won two awards for saving a missing jet skier, as well as rescuing two men and a child aboard a sinking 23' Hurricane in the Palaco Canal.

Media Contacts:

Brian Chandler
Commonwealth Public Relations
O: (804) 510-0039 ex 101 M: (804) 221-9177
bchandler@commonwealth-pr.com

Cindy McCaffery
Sea Tow Services International, Inc.
(631) 876-5061
cindymccaffery@seatow.com

- **Captain Cody Catapano of Sea Tow Crystal Coast** for locating and rescuing an injured man who had been knocked unconscious after hitting his head on a table when his 36' Lohrs had run up on a shoal.
- **Captain Kendrick Schwartz of Sea Tow Ocean Isle** for rescuing a woman off Bald Head Island who had gone overboard and was separated from her 40' sailboat after being caught in the river's current.
- **Captains Joe Fiedler and Todd Ingram of Sea Tow Panama City** for locating and rescuing three fisherman whose boat had sunk outside St. Andrew's Pass.
- **Captain Brian Wood of Sea Tow Santa Monica** [for braving gale-force winds and 6-8' seas to locate and rescue three mariners](#) whose 28' tri-hull racing sailboat had overturned nine miles outside Marina Del Ray.

"We couldn't be more proud of the response from our captains when lives are on the line," Frohnhoefer said. "These awards are our way of showing how much we appreciate the way these captains have stepped up to go above and beyond the call of duty when boaters needed them most."

###

Suggested Social Media Post:

Facebook: "Sea Tow announced its annual awards today, see if your local captain made the list. <http://bit.ly/2yRguAB>"

Twitter: "Five Sea Tow locations honored for its outstanding service to boaters. <http://bit.ly/2yRguAB>"

About Sea Tow

Founded in 1983, Sea Tow Services International Inc. is the largest on-water assistance fleet for boaters consisting of nearly 100 franchise locations across the United States with additional locations in Europe, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

Headquartered in Southold, NY., Capt. Joe Frohnhoefer established the family-owned company to provide non-emergency assistance to boaters on the water after the U.S Coast Guard stopped servicing non-emergency calls. Known for their "distinctive yellow boats", Sea Tow's network of dedicated US Coast Guard licensed captains, crew, and support staff, are standing by 24/7 to serve its members and other boaters in need. Sea Tow also responds to emergency events, natural disasters, environmental response and oil spill cleanup. For more information, please visit seatow.com.

Serving Boaters Since 1983