Sarasota Police Department

Life Saving Medal

Sergeant Michael Schwieterman Officer Juan Jaimes Officer Michael Skinner

On July 4, 2015 at approximately 1700 hours, two individuals were canoeing just offshore of Lido Beach during the Grand Prix Boat Races. One of the canoes tipped over and the man's hand became caught in the ropes. He began inhaling water and the female began screaming for help.

The Sarasota Police Marine Unit was nearby for the boat races and Officers heard the screams. At that time, Sergeant Schwieterman jumped into the water to help the canoer. At the same time, Sarasota County Lifeguard Bryce Makowski rode the rescue jet ski from shore to assist. Officer Skinner, who was driving the boat, assisted to make sure the victim did not go under water again. Sergeant Schwieterman and Lifeguard Makowski were able to get the man onto a board and use the jet ski to get him to shore where Officer Jaimes assisted in getting the victim to breathe again.

For their heroic actions, the Sarasota Police Department is proud to present Sergeant Michael Schwieterman, Officer Michael Skinner, and Officer Juan Jaimes with Life Saving Medals.