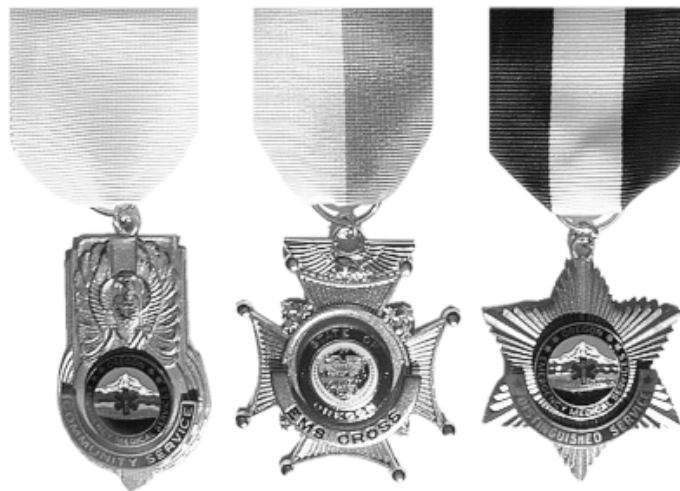




State EMS Awards Book of Recognition



**Department of Human Services
Emergency Medical Services & Trauma Systems
800 NE Oregon Street, Ste. 607
Portland, OR 97232
Telephone: (971) 673-0520**

<http://egov.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/ems/recognition/index.shtml>



The Lifesaving Medal recognizes an EMT who, while in an off-duty or volunteer capacity, makes an extremely noteworthy contribution to efforts which result in the saving of a life.

Name: Donald Meyers, EMT-B

Agency: AMR Special Services Division, Sandy Fire District



On July 28, 2007 Don Meyers had to act as EMT and Lifeguard, alone and without equipment. While Don Meyers was swimming in the White River and diving through its waterfalls, he surfaced and saw arms waving-- pointing past him. He looked and saw a hand, just above water, slowly sinking below the surface. Don swam toward the victim -- though he'd taken a lifeguarding class he'd never used the skills.

Don's leg hit something-- an arm. He pulled the drowning man to the surface (which pushed *him* under) then began to move to shore. With assistance from other swimmers they reached the shallows and bystanders helped lift them to shore. More shouts-- another victim was under water! Don and others rushed back into the river. The second victim was pulled in and was also moved to the beach. Exhausted, Don followed but moved quickly to make his assessment of victims.



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Two drowning victims were on shore, limp and lifeless. Don observed they were both blue and didn't seem to be breathing. Don (the only person with medical training) checked each one, expecting to perform CPR, and found weak carotid pulses. He instructed bystanders to hold cervical spine immobilization and then roll the victims onto their sides when they began vomiting, then breathing spontaneously. Don moved back and forth between the two, monitoring them while their color and vital signs improved, and as they regained consciousness. Warm towels were brought to keep the two from chilling further. An emergency room physician arrived but determined nothing else could be done until EMS arrived. Approximately an hour after being submerged and lifeless the two men were transferred to the care of local EMS providers. Both victims were able to walk out of the canyon, thanks to the efforts of Don Meyers.





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Name: Ginger Slavens, EMT-B

Agency: Department of Homeland Security, United State Coast Guard Auxiliary



**Homeland
Security**

From: Commandant

To: Ms. Ginger R. Slavens, USCG Auxiliary

Subj: AUXILIARY LETTER OF COMMENDATION

1. I note with pride and am pleased to commend you for your performance in assisting in a successful cardio-pulmonary resuscitation of a child on 14 November 2007. Responding to an emergency request from an Auxiliary scanner, you proceeded to a home where a thirteen year old was choking and experiencing difficulty breathing. Demonstrating the highest degree of proficiency, you assessed the situation and immediately initiated CPR on the child who was not breathing. With the highest level of professional judgment, you directed the mother to continue rescue breathing while you contacted the local ambulance service. Using your technical skills as a Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technician-B, you continued to attempt to get the child to breathe. During this rescue, you calmed the mother while directing and assisting with advanced life saving procedures. Your finely honed skills, quick thinking, and thorough grasp of the situation not only helped to resuscitate the child but provided a calming effect on the child's family even after the ambulance transported the child to hospital care.

2. You are to be commended for your spirit of service and your dedication to saving life. You have upheld the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

3. You are hereby authorized to wear the Commandant's Auxiliary Letter of Commendation Ribbon Bar.

For the Commandant,

J.P. CURRIER

Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard
Commander, Thirteenth Coast Guard District