



**City of Kerrville**  
800 Junction Highway  
Kerrville, Texas 78028-5069  
830.258.1112 (O)  
[mindy.wendele@kerrvilletx.gov](mailto:mindy.wendele@kerrvilletx.gov)

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **City Lifeguards Qualify for State Lifeguard Championships**

**Kerrville-** The City of Kerrville Lifeguard Team competed along 19 other teams at the Central Texas Lifeguard Competition in New Braunfels on July 16, 2012. The City of Kerrville placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the First-Aid / CPR Event and 3<sup>rd</sup> overall which qualifies them for the Texas State Lifeguard Championships in Corpus Christi on July 30, 2012. The team members consist of Destini Leija, Travis Barnes-Johnson, Melissa Blanchard and Steven Vogel.

A Lifeguard Competition team consists of two female and two male lifeguards. Each team competes in several unknown scenarios and simulations that encompass First-Aid, CPR, Spinal Injury Management, Conscious and Unconscious guests and additional lifesaving techniques with rescue equipment such as oxygen and an automated external defibrillator (AED). Event coordinators do their best to simulate the emergency with makeup, props, fake blood and in some competitions, a theatrical professional to create life like injuries. Teams are meticulously judged on their ability to recognize and react to each emergency, problem solving, confidence, teamwork, rule enforcement, triage, and overall skill level and management of the scenario.

“This is the first year that Kerrville has ever sent a team and it is unheard of for a new team to place so highly”, stated Ashlea Boyle, Parks and Recreation Manager. “They competed against and placed higher than veteran teams that usually place in the top 3. Guard Competitions are very intense and it’s fascinating to see the skill

level among all the different competitors. Our team has trained extremely hard and have come a long way in such a short period of time.”

For additional information contact Mindy Wendele, Director of Business Programs at 830.258.1112 or visit the city’s website at [www.kerrvilletx.gov](http://www.kerrvilletx.gov) .

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