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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kerrville Guard Team Places 1st at Texas Super Guard Competition and Qualifies for State

Kerrville, Texas (July 11, 2017) – The City of Kerrville Parks and Recreation Department’s Competitive Guard Team competed against 24 other teams at the Texas Super Guard Lifeguard Competition in College Station, Texas on July 10, 2017. The Kerrville team placed 1st place overall, 14 points higher than the second place team, and qualified for the Games of Texas State Lifeguard Competition to be held in Round Rock, Texas on July 31, 2017. Schlitterbahn came in second, five points higher than the City of Cedar Park, the third place team. Out of the three events at the competition, the Kerrville team placed 1st in two events and 2nd in one event. Participating teams consisted of Ellis & Associates and Red Cross trained lifeguards.

A Lifeguard Competition Team or “Guard Team” consists of four lifeguards, typically two female and two male. The 2017 Kerrville Guard Team members are Wren Vogel, Jacob Pierz, Courtney LaQuey, Carlos Nava, and alternates Megan Myers and Michael Tran. Ms.

Myers, Ms. LaQuey, Mr. Nava, and Mr. Pierz were the four that competed in the competition. In addition to their regular lifeguard duties, the team endures rigorous and specialized training to prepare for the competitions. “These young adults are remarkably dedicated and have worked exceptionally hard to perform at a competitive level,” said Ashlea Boyle, Director of Parks and Recreation.

The Super Guard Competition consisted of three unknown scenarios and simulations that encompass First-Aid, Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation CPR, spinal injury management, water rescues, conscious and unconscious guests, pool fouling / biohazard incidents, and additional lifesaving techniques. “Our guards are trained and licensed under the Jeff Ellis & Associates lifeguard training program. We are trained to use basic life support equipment such as supplemental oxygen and an automated external defibrillator (AED). All three competition finalists are E&A trained facilities.”

Competition coordinators do their best to simulate emergencies with makeup, props, fake blood, and in some competitions, a theatric professional to create life like injuries,” added Ms. Boyle. “Teams are then 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. It’s actually quite difficult and we are very proud of our team.”



Kerrville Competitive Guard Team

Pictured from left to right:

Megan Myers, Carlos Nava, Wren Vogel, Jacob Pierz, Michael Tran, and Courtney LaQuey



Pictured from left to right:

Michael Tran, Megan Myers, Jacob Pierz, Courtney LaQuey, and Carlos Nava