



Agenda Item: Employee Spotlight – Peter Davis

Background: Peter most recently joined the Park Board in 2007 and serves as the Chief of Beach Patrol and the Park Board Police Department.

Peter began working for Beach Patrol in 1983. He currently volunteers as Secretary General of the Americas Region of the International Lifesaving Federation (ILS), as well as the President of the United States Lifesaving Association (USLA). In 2017 he was awarded the title of “Knight in the Order of Lifesaving” by the International Lifesaving Federation and in 2019 he was given the Paragon Award and inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame for the category of water safety.

Chief Davis is an instructor of Open Water Lifesaving and Personal Watercraft Rescue for USLA and Red Cross open water lifeguarding, Red Cross Emergency Medical Response, and personal watercraft rescue. He is an Emergency Medical Technician, Texas Peace Officer, Marine Safety Enforcement Officer, Emergency Vehicle Operator, Swift Water Technician, and Public Safety Diver. He also is certified as a Crisis Intervention Counselor.

He is actively involved in training Mexican lifeguards, and he coordinates a lifeguard exchange program with Galveston’s sister city, Veracruz. He was the lead instructor for several international efforts to train the first open water lifeguard instructors for the beaches in Venezuela, and has done lifesaving development work in Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, and elsewhere in the Americas. Peter was selected as Aquatic International Magazine’s “Power 25”, one of the 25 most influential people in aquatics. He co-produced and wrote the educational video “Texas Beaches-Know the Dangers,” winner of both the National Telly and Communicators Awards. In addition, he co-edited the Spanish version of the second edition of the USLA Training Manual. Additionally, he is on the steering committee of the USLA/NOAA Rip Current Awareness Program as well as being a representative on Water Safety USA.

Chief Davis, a 7th generation Galvestonian, was the Art Director of the Galveston “See-Wall Mural Project”. He enjoys surfing, training for lifesaving competitions, martial arts, and hanging out with his daughter, Kai.

We are thrilled to recognize Chief Davis this month as he approaches his 15th service anniversary with the Park Board and 40 years of service on Galveston’s beaches.