



# GALLANTRY AWARD

# SILVER

Presented to

## Jannes Le Roux

For his courage and determination during a challenging rescue operation launched at 14h04 on Thursday, 13 June 2024, following reports of a fishing vessel capsized between Saunders' Rock and Queen's Beach, Bantry Bay.

Eyewitnesses had seen an open ski-boat capsize just beyond the surf zone. At this stage, the number of people on board was unknown.

NSRI Table Bay, NSRI Bakoven, and the City of Cape Town's water rescue network were activated. Dirk Coetzee from NSRI Bakoven was first on the scene, followed shortly by Russell Goodman, Jannes le Roux, Tiaan de Kock, and Pieter van Heerden also from NSRI Bakoven. Under Dirk's direction, the rescue swimmers entered the surf to begin a coordinated search.

Jannes was the first to reach the younger man, later confirmed as the sole survivor of the tragedy, and gave him a Pink Rescue Buoy to keep him afloat. Jannes was joined by Russell, Tiaan and Pieter who remained with the casualty, before Pieter swam him to shore. Without hesitation, Jannes continued to swim further out to reach the second man, believed to be in his 60s, who was unresponsive in the water near Queen's Beach.

Jannes was joined by Russell and Tiaan who made valiant efforts to rescue and revive the unresponsive man. They recovered him onto the NSRI rescue vessel Spirit of Day (Rescue 3A), and they initiated and continued CPR en route to the slipway at Three Anchor Bay. Despite all efforts, the man was sadly declared deceased by paramedics.

It was later confirmed that three men had been on board when the boat capsized. With two recovered, the search for the third continued. Paula Leech (Station 3) and Grant Back (Station 2) arrived and took charge of coordinating the air and sea operation, supported by the Spirit of Day and the EMS/AMS Skymed rescue helicopter.

The capsized vessel washed ashore near Queen's Beach and SAPS confirmed no one remained trapped. Spirit of Day and Skymed continued the search, with NSRI swimmers in the water and other emergency services conducting a shoreline sweep.

The third casualty was located in the surf zone by Skymed. An EMS Metro rescue diver deployed from the helicopter, recovered the unresponsive man, and extracted him ashore. Paramedics commenced CPR, but after all efforts were exhausted, he too was sadly declared deceased.

At 14h55, all three casualties had been accounted for, and NSRI crews were stood down.

Jannes le Roux's gallantry and courageous efforts that afternoon, entering rough, unpredictable waters with single-minded focus on saving lives, was marked by physical endurance and exceptional bravery. Despite perilous conditions, he tirelessly worked to reach the casualties. His actions reflect the very best traditions of the National Sea Rescue Institute.

We are proud to honour him with the **Gallantry Award – Silver**.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Velloza'.

Jonathan Velloza  
Chairman: Board of Directors



15 August 2025

Date