



Gary R. Stanton
Sheriff/Coroner

530 Union Avenue • Suite 100 • Fairfield, CA 94533

Administration Offices

(707)421-7000

INFORMATION RELEASE



Solano Sheriff's Deputy Recognized for Work Solano County Sheriff's Office

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Solano County Sheriff's Deputy Joe Pinder has recently been recognized for his outstanding work with the Sheriff's Marine Patrol Program. He was recognized as the Boating Officer of the Year, through the California Department of Boating and Waterways at their annual convention held in Santa Barbara at the end of April. Each state then submits the name of their Boating Officer of the Year to the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators for further consideration of national recognition for their efforts.

Joe has worked for the Sheriff's Office for 4-years. He is currently in the 2nd year of his assignment with the Sheriff's Marine Patrol Program. According to Joe's supervisor, Sgt. Greg Mittelstadt, "Joe has hit the ground running." He immediately began establishing relationships in the maritime community with boaters, allied agencies, and business leaders. He was trained in advanced boating accident investigations, working on several accident investigations including assisting Coast Guard Sector San Francisco with

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a fatal accident involving a maritime salvager. The Coast Guard's Investigations Team was so impressed with Joe's knowledge and expertise in accident investigations, they enrolled for training in the same accident investigations courses that he attended.

Earlier this year, Deputy Pinder and his partner were also responsible for saving lives during two separate incidents. On January 23rd, Deputy Pinder and his partner, Deputy Jonathan Mazer, responded to the report of a woman falling off of the Mare Island Causeway, into the Mare Island Straits. They arrived a short time later to find a woman clinging to a piling in the water between the Mare Island Causeway and the Highway 37 Bridge. The woman was transported to a local area hospital for further medical treatment. Later that day, Deputies Pinder and Mazer monitored a "Mayday" broadcast of Marine Band 16. While they were talking to the Coast Guard over the radio about the monitored broadcast, they observed 2 red flares being fired from a 40' sailboat located close to the California Maritime Academy. They responded to the boat and found 2 passengers on board who were on vacation from Quebec, Canada. The boat was taking on water and starting to sink. The two passengers were not injured. The deputies assisted them by towing their boat to safety.

Contact:

Lieutenant Gary Faulkner
Public Information Officer
(707) 784-1490 Office
gfaulkner@solanocounty.com