



# California Surf Lifesaving Association

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Southwest Region - United States Lifesaving Association

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World Wide Web: [www.cslsa.org](http://www.cslsa.org)

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## Lifeguard Titles Ad Hoc Committee Minutes - Fall 2007 October 12, 2007

Project Status – Preliminary information has been gathered from Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego Counties. Scott Davey (LA) and Bill Humphreys (OC) will be project coordinators for their respective counties. Richard Hidalgo has volunteered to coordinate San Diego County responses and input.

The Committee recognized that this project is one of many pieces to a larger goal of enhancing and promoting professional standards for lifesaving. Other needs include: increased standardized training, standardized equipment, and certifications for various skills.

Although the ultimate goal would be to recognize or standardize job titles and responsibilities among open water lifeguards, this is a goal that is many years away and may not be completely achievable. Therefore, the Committee will move forward with the current plan to work towards categorizing existing job titles, and identify positions that are roughly equivalent in an “equivalency matrix” by county. One suggestion (regarding the fact that job titles may never be completely standardized due to outside constraints such as structure of departments, employee unions, or agency restrictions, etc.), is to come up with titles that are recognized as “field titles” or a “field identification system” similar to what is done with the Incident Command System. The Committee will continue to work on this project during the upcoming months corresponding via email.

It was recognized that although the Committee will be making recommendations regarding the draft matrix, ultimately this project will need the support of various individual department heads (Chiefs, Captains, Managers, etc.).

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Humphreys, Committee Co-Chairman