

WHO'S THE BOSS?

By Eric Sandy, Del Mar.

Who runs the show? Who's the Chief or the Captain or the Ole Man or the Big Guy? Who's El Jefe, Numero Uno, Ichiban? On whose desk does the buck stop?

In any line of work, good leadership is very important. In the business of lifesaving, great leadership is vital.

From Navy days, I remember that superior officers could delegate *authority* but not *responsibility*. To me, that meant I could tell someone of lower rank to do a job but whether or not that job was done properly was still eventually my responsibility. In fact, since my orders ultimately originated from the Captain, he was ALWAYS responsible, no matter what.

I suspect the same is true in lifeguarding. When all is said and done, it's the Boss who has to answer. Considering the immense implications for public safety, that means our lifeguard Bosses have a tremendous responsibility. It's literally, life and death – the life and death of the public and of the crewmembers depending on the Boss for leadership. Too often that momentous job is under-appreciated.

In too many cases, the person in charge of keeping millions of people safe, serves courageously and brilliantly in anonymity. For some of these leaders it's partly a matter of choice. They are not the types to seek the spotlight. For others it's more of a case of the media just passing them over to publicize someone a little more glamorous. Regardless, considering the immense impact these leaders have on the safety and well-being of so many people, it's a mistake to not give at least some token recognition. That's our mission in this short listing.

We apologize for any oversights. In a few cases, we may have given some of the credit to the wrong person or mangled their title or misspelled their name. For some of the Cal State sectors we just failed to identify all the bosses. Knowing the caliber of these people, they'll excuse our errors. For them the greatest reward is the satisfaction of knowing that everybody who came to the beach that day went home safely. For that we owe them our thanks, admiration and respect.

THE BOSSES according to fairly reliable sources...

CAL STATE SAN DIEGO COUNTY	CHIEF DENNIS STOUFFER
CAL STATE ORANGE COAST	CHIEF JOE MILLIGAN
CAL STATE CHANNEL ISLANDS	SUPERVISOR GREG WHITE
CAMP PENDLETON	CHIEF VINCE LOMBARDI
CAPITOLA	CAPTAIN ERIC MITCHELL
CORONADO	CAPTAIN SEAN CAREY
DEL MAR	CHIEF PATRICK VERGNE
ENCINITAS	CAPTAIN LARRY GILES
HAWAII	CHIEF HOWE
HUNTINGTON BEACH	CHIEF STEVE SIME
IMPERIAL BEACH	CAPTAIN ROBERT STABENOW
LAGUNA BEACH	CHIEF MARK KLOSTERMAN
LAKE MISSION VIEJO	CAPTAIN DAVID PEDEN
LONG BEACH	CHIEF MARK BOONE

L.A. CITY
L.A. COUNTY
NEWPORT BEACH

OCEANSIDE
PORT HUENEME
SAN CLEMENTE
SAN DIEGO CITY
SAN LUIS OBISPO
PISMO BEACH
SANTA BARBARA
SANTA CRUZ
SEAL BEACH
SOLANA BEACH
USOC
VENTURA

DIRECTOR RICH GODINO
CHIEF MICHAEL FRAZER
CAPTAIN JIM TURNER
CAPTAIN ERIC BAUER
CAPTAIN MATT STEVENS
HEAD LIFEGUARD TIM BURROWS
CAPTAIN BILL HUMPHREYS
CHIEF KENNETH HEWITT
no reply at press time
no reply at press time
CAPTAIN RICH HANNA
CHIEF JOHN ALEXIOU
CHIEF STEVE CUSHMAN
CAPTAIN PAUL DEAN
DIRECTOR JASON YOUNG
HARBOR MASTER JACK PEVELER

(Ed note; our apologies to those agencies we missed including some of the CalState sectors)