MEDIA RELEASE

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ROTARY EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMUNITY AWARDS

Some of the states most dedicated heroes came together in Bankstown tonight to be honoured for their unwavering commitment to community safety at the 2019 Rotary Emergency Services Community Awards.

Minister for Police and Emergency Services David Elliott congratulated the seven winners who each had distinguished careers responding to major incidents.

Bankstown Sports Club hosted the night with winners representing Fire and Rescue NSW, NSW Ambulance, NSW Marine Rescue, NSW Rural Fire Service, NSW State Emergency Services, and NSW Volunteer Rescue Association.

The overall Winner, Officer in Paid Capacity, is a Fire and Rescue NSW 38-year firefighting veteran, Zone Commander (Illawarra) Superintendent Anthony Waller, whose experience includes being a Team Leader in an Australian earthquake taskforce in Christchurch and an Operations Officers in the NSW cyclone taskforce in Proserpine, Queensland.

The overall Winner, Officer in Volunteer Capacity, is NSW Volunteer Rescue Association Captain of the Albury and Border Rescue Squad Paul Marshall, who has actively promoted interagency cooperation as a serving member of Victorian Police Highway Patrol. He was also part of a team who travelled to Vanuatu to train locals in Disaster Preparedness and rescue operations.

"It takes a committed person who values their community to put themselves on the frontline when disaster strikes. I want to thank all the winners and the other finalists for being the people the community turns to when they need help," Mr Elliott said.

The winners for each Agency are: FRNSW Zone Commander (Illawarra) Superintendent Anthony Waller; NSWMR Coxwain (Port Macquarie) Raymond Angel; NSW Ambulance Duty Operations Manager (Northmead) Inspector Kevin McSweeney; NSW RFS Captain and Treasurer (Copmanhurst) Edwin Newbery; NSW SES Deputy Unit Commander (Hunters Hill) Peter Dadd; and NSW VRA Captain of the Albury and Border Rescue Squad Paul Marshall.

The \$1000 Dorothy Hennessy OAM Emergency Services Youth Scholarship was awarded to Jessica Pengilley, a Trainee Operator, in the Dubbo Rescue from the NSW Volunteer Rescue Association.

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