

## Minister Tony Piccolo

Minister for Emergency Services

Thursday, 27 November, 2014

### Honouring our emergency service personnel

A ceremony has been held to honour 22 South Australian emergency service personnel who have gone above and beyond the call of duty.

Emergency Services Minister Tony Piccolo said the ceremony paid tribute to efforts and courage of all the recipients but especially the three individuals who were presented with the South Australian Emergency Services Medal.

“These individuals have been recognised for their extraordinary dedication to their role and all have proven a willingness to go above and beyond daily duties,” Mr Piccolo said.

“On ANZAC Day this year, the rescue helicopter was called out to an emergency situation at Petrel Cove near Encounter Bay.

“Both Ashley Sanders and Chris Parson have been honoured today for their efforts that on eventful day, where they were able to save a persons life despite the treacherous conditions that confronted them.

“Vincent Schar’s commitment to the Juvenile Firefighters Intervention Program has been exceptional and he is being acknowledged today for educating a countless number of South Australians about fire danger.”

The recipients this year represent a host of organisations including, the SA Ambulance Service, Country Fire Service, Metropolitan Fire Service, State Emergency Service, SA Fire and Emergency Services Commission, Surf Life Saving SA and Volunteer Marine Rescue.

Minister Piccolo said their extraordinary service is a reminder of the efforts made by many people – both volunteers and paid staff – to ensure the safety of every South Australian.

“While they all have their own roles to play in their organisation, they do share one thing in common – they are tireless individuals who have worked hard to make sure our communities remain as safe and secure as possible,” he said.

“These awards seek to recognise and raise awareness of the extraordinary contributions of everyone involved in the emergency services sector.

“I would like to congratulate each and every one of them and thank them for their efforts and contribution to our community.”