CSA 17 Advisory Committee Meeting–
Oct. 27, 2026

Solana Beach Marine Safety Department 2026 Update

About The Department

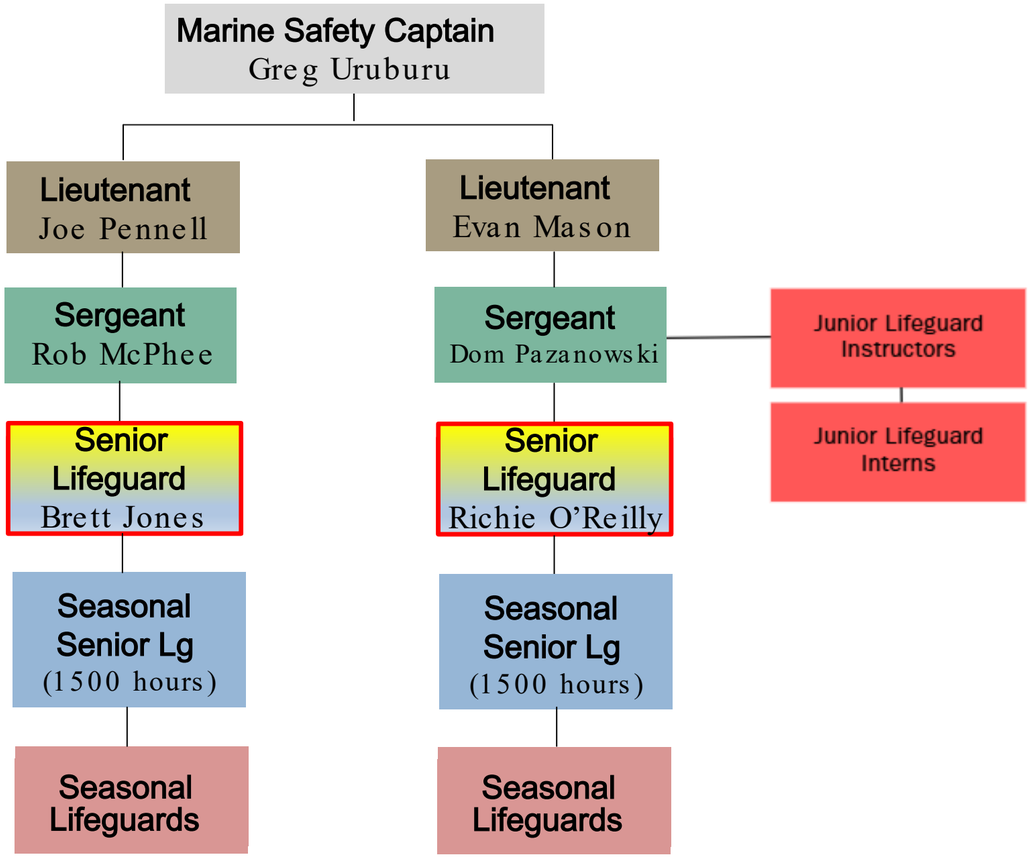
The City of Solana Beach Marine Safety Department is responsible for water, beach and bluff safety for the public use of the city's 1.7 miles of coastline.

The Department operates with seven full-time employees, five seasonal supervisors, complimented with fifty-five seasonal employees and twenty-five Junior Lifeguard Interns. The Department primarily prevents and responds to waterborne emergencies in the City of Solana Beach 365 days a year. Marine Safety conducts dive rescue and recovery,swiftwater rescue response and provides emergency medical care as needed.



Marine Safety Team

Organizational Chart



Emergency Preparedness

Preparation

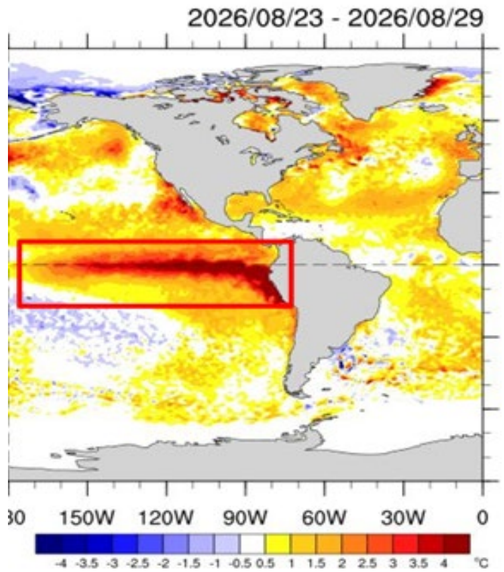
- Citywide planning
- Collaboration
  - SBLG, SBFD, DMLG, DMFD coordination, planning, swift water rescue technician training
  - Regional collaboration– north zone LG and Fire
  - Rescue Watercraft usage and training for high surf
  - Swift water rescue technician teams

Current Forecasts

- NOAAdeclared an El Niño when ocean temperatures in the equatorial Pacific reached 0.5°C (0.9°F) above average for several consecutive months.
- Per NOAA, current ocean temperatures are above 2.0°C similar to El Nino 2015/16 and 1997/98







Junior Lifeguard Program

Session Calendar

Total of 8, two-week long sessions that are three and a half hours each per day.

Includes a session that runs from 8 AM to 11:30 AM and a session that runs from 12 noon to 3:30 PM.

Participants

This summer we had a total of 1,300 participants during our summer season. We had presentations from the Tower Lifeguards, along with the John Wayne Cancer Foundation. We also had a competition day with the Del Mar Junior Lifeguard Program.

Intern Program

Each summer we use around 25 interns to help manage our program. These employees are between the ages of 16-19, and we use our intern program as a way to recruit, retain, and mentor previous JG participants into great seasonal lifeguards for our department.











Community Outreach

One of the main department goals in 2026 is to enhance and expand the community outreach program with our local community members. Community outreach projects are a great way to showcase the departments abilities, strengthen community relationships, and enhance recruitment and retention.

School Safety Presentations

Our main presentation to local schools or community events is a booth where we teach “Sidewalk CPR” which is an easy way for bystanders to help in an emergency before more advanced first responders arrive.

Pink Patch Project

Each October, the SBLGs wear pink patches on their uniforms, showing support for Breast Cancer Awareness and prevention and sell pink patches to support the Susan G. Komen foundation

Assorted Events & Projects

We were thankful to be a part of some career days at local schools, the SBFD Open house, assorted surf contest sponsors, along with COSB’s World Kindness Day, Miramar College’s Public Safety Job Fair, and National Night Out





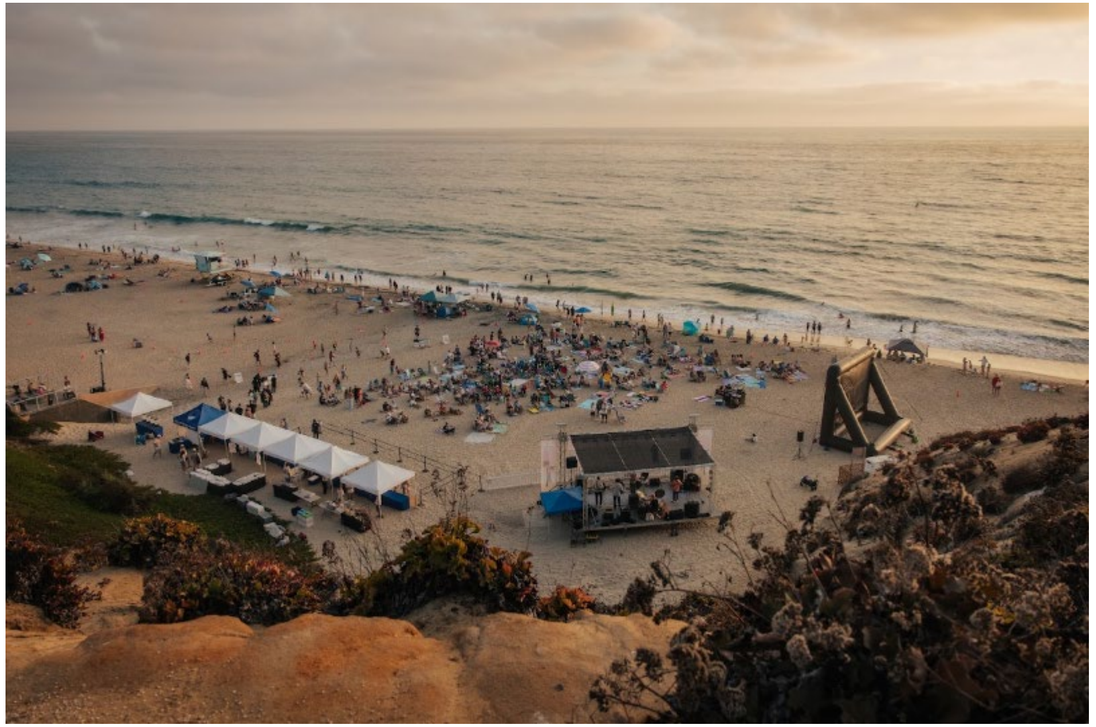




Special Events

In collaboration with the city, the department hosted three, very fun and engaging events on the beach for our Community. The triathlon, Beach Blanket Movie Night, and a 40th Anniversary Beach Concert. Lifeguards were tasked with event safety, setup and breakdown and made critical rescues during the triathlon. We were proud to share our beautiful coastline and provide safe events for all to enjoy





Regional Training & Specialty Courses

Another 2026 goal is increase standardize and strengthen our training processes while engaging on a regional level. Through continued and enhanced training, we strive to ensure Lifeguards will perform at a high level of service to provide care for our community while reducing risk and liability.

We again led and hosted one of the three annual San Diego Regional Lifeguard Academies. Collaborative effort with San Diego Lifeguards and Coronado Lifeguards. This regional engagement also serves as a tool for recruitment efforts. The department has hosted four consecutive years.

The San Diego Lifeguard Regional Training Program with Miramar College is a great way for staff to receive training in Vehicle Operations, and PWC operations. These classes are supplemented with more in-house training from Solana Beach Lifeguards.

In addition to the Regional Academy, more of our permanent staff have begun teaching in the regional Emergency Vehicle Operations and Rescue Watercraft training courses. Further increasing our presence at a regional level.

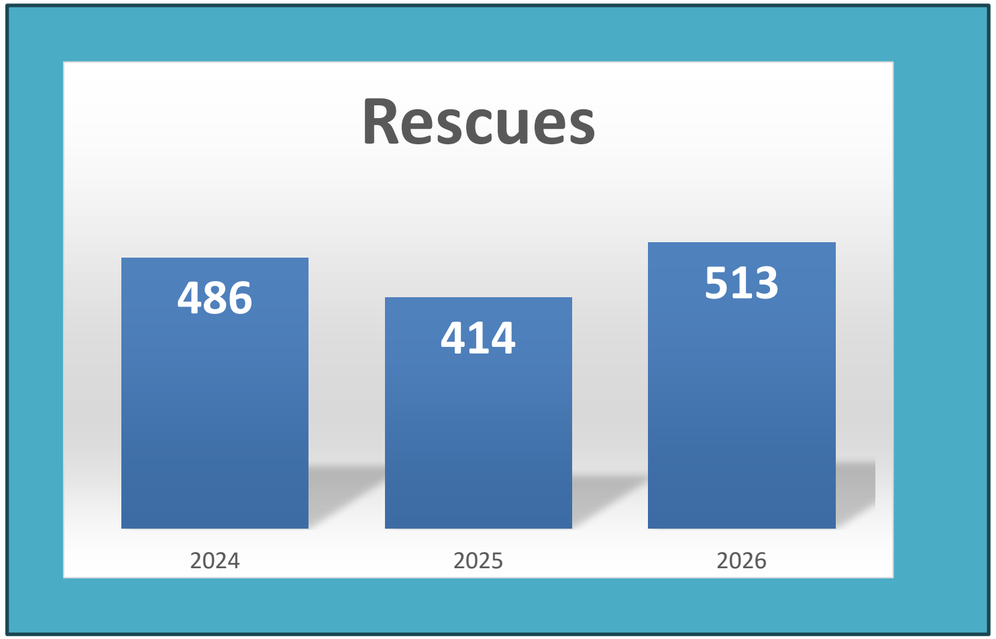
The department also participates in swift water rescue technician training with Cal Fire, Solana Fire, and Del Mar Lifeguards and Fire for swift water rescue response.





2026 Summer Statistics

	2024	2025	2026
Total Rescues	486	414	513
Total Safety Contacts	35,618	37,204	17,583
Total Bluff Contact	5,328	4,431	1,961
Total Medical Aids	703	428	358



Solana Beach Marine Safety looks forward to continued service

