



TUOLUMNE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"Serving with Professionalism and Pride"

Bill Pooley
Sheriff-Coroner

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Bill Pooley, Sheriff

Date: July 20, 2021

Subject: Life Saving Award

I wish to recognize Deputy Keller, Deputy Richards and Nurse Gzell for their heroic actions on November 9, 2020.

While on duty at the Dambacher Detention Center, Deputy Gonzalez and Deputy Keller were feeding dinner to inmates when they noticed one inmate housed in C tank didn't come to get his dinner tray. For their safety, Deputy Gonzalez ordered the inmates to step into their cells while Deputy Keller radioed for assistance. After Corporal Bones, Deputies Teague, Acker and Pacheco arrived, they entered C tank and Deputy Richards and found an inmate lying face down making a gasping noise. The inmate had a blue complexion and was foaming at the mouth. Nurse Gzell arrived on scene and requested Narcan. Nurse Gzell checked the inmates sugar levels and then administered Narcan to the inmate. Nurse Gzell then checked the inmate for a pulse and could not find one. Nurse Gzell told deputies to start CPR.

Deputy Richards and Deputy Keller proceeded to place the inmate on the ground and Deputy Richards began CPR. Deputy Teague retrieved the AED. Deputy Keller placed the AED pads onto the inmate. CPR was temporarily stopped. The AED machine determined that a shock was not advised and stated to continue CPR. Nurse Gzell checked again for a pulse but couldn't find one. At this time Deputy Gonzalez returned to C tank with the AMBU bag. Deputy Richards continued CPR. Deputy Keller placed the AMBU bag on the inmate and provided oxygen. Nurse Gzell checked the inmate for a pulse and again and was unable to find one. Deputy Richards continued CPR with Deputy Keller providing oxygen. Nurse Gzell checked the inmate for a pulse again and was this time able to find one. Nurse Gzell administered another dose of Narcan and the inmate began breathing on his own. When the medics arrived, they took over medical care of the inmate.

I would like to state that all the custody staff on scene that day performed exceptionally well. In my opinion Deputy Richards, Deputy Keller and Nurse Gzell actions saved this inmate's life that day.

For their exceptional and heroic acts during an emergency, wherein their actions saved a life, Deputy Keller, Deputy Richards and Nurse Gzell are hereby presented the Tuolumne County Sheriff's Office Lifesaving award.