



**EIGHTH DISTRICT  
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RELEASE NO. 025-03

March 7, 2003

## **COAST GUARD RESCUES MAN'S BEST FRIEND**

**CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas** – Man's best friend got a second chance at life when the Coast Guard rescued a drowning dog 150 yards off the Corpus Christi seawall around 8:40 this morning.

The black Labrador Retriever - name, age and hometown unknown - was spotted by passers-by on the seawall, and the Coast Guard was notified of his precarious position in the water.

After receiving the call at the Group Corpus Christi Operations Center, the watchstanders quickly diverted a Coast Guard HH-65 Dolphin helicopter, which was already airborne on a training mission, to the imperiled pooch.

When the crew arrived on scene the exhausted canine was barely keeping itself afloat, its snout was 1 inch above the water. As the helicopter crew was about to deploy the rescue swimmer, the Lab's snout dipped below the water for the last time. Seeing this, the swimmer leapt from the helicopter in a 15-foot free-fall deployment, swam about 10 feet under water to rescue the unconscious canine, and hauled the big dog to the surface and eased him into the rescue basket.

Once the Lab was brought aboard the helicopter the flight mechanic immediately began using a breathing bag to clear the water from the dog's lungs. Once the dog's airway was cleared, he began "mouth-to-snout" resuscitation until the lucky Lab finally began to show signs of life.

After ensuring the Lab was out of immediate danger the swimmer was recovered and the dog was flown back to the air station. For the duration of the 15- to 20-minute flight back to the air station the crew continued "mouth-to-snout." Upon landing he was transferred to a waiting vehicle that sped him to OSO Animal Hospital.

This case highlights the Coast Guard's commitment to the safety of life at sea and the protection of all our nation's citizens, even those of the four-footed variety.

*All local Corpus Christi affiliates have video of this case. For digital photographs and more information please contact PA3 Andrew Kendrick at (281) 481-3880*