



Media Advisory

May 22, 2007

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Baby girl is fine after spending more than 5 minutes under water *How many people does it take to save a life? More than you might think*

BACKGROUND: On March 16, 2007 14-month-old Mia Deuter was found at the bottom of her family's swimming pool in the Spring Branch area. She had been submerged for what could be called an eternity in these types of situations – five or six minutes. It's every parent's nightmare that happens all too frequently, especially during the summer months. These stories often have very tragic endings. Fortunately, Mia survived with no ongoing problems thanks to all of the people who knew exactly what they needed to know, and who were exactly where they needed to be, standing by and ready to respond. These people – including Mia's father – were all life-saving "links" in our region's "chain of survival."

Members of Mia's "chain of survival" will come together on Wednesday, May 23 – during National EMS Week – to celebrate Mia's life, talk about their commitment to provide emergency care to our trauma region and emphasize the importance of CPR training for everyone, especially parents.

This chain was crucial to Mia's survival. Just one "break" could easily have resulted in Mia's death.

1st Link: Brian Deuter, Mia's father. He started CPR on his daughter within seconds of pulling her out of the pool and called 911.

2nd Link: Their neighbor – an off-duty police officer – who came over and continued CPR so Brian could continue speaking with the 911 operator.

3rd Link: The first responders from the Bulverde Volunteer Fire Department – who arrived within 9 minutes and assumed CPR.

4th Link: The Bulverde Spring Branch EMS paramedics who arrived 4 minutes later and began Advanced Life Support (ALS) intervention.

5th Link: San Antonio AirLife, who arrived 12 minutes later and provided ICU level care & rapid transport to the trauma center.

6th Link: The Level I Pediatric Trauma Team at University Hospital, where Mia spent the next three weeks in the Intensive Care Unit.

WHO: Mia Deuter, her parents (Melissa and Brian) and siblings; Bulverde VFD; Bulverde Spring Branch EMS; San Antonio AirLife, University Hospital.

WHAT: Celebrating Mia's life and the "Chain of Survival"

WHEN: Wednesday, May 23 at 10:30 a.m. (AirLife is expected to land right at 10:30)

WHERE: Bulverde Spring Branch EMS Department
4201 US Hwy. 281 North, Spring Branch