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For Immediate Release

## **Milwaukee County Lifeguards to Compete Against Golf Shores, AL** *Winning Team to Take Home \$10,000*

Milwaukee, WI (July 30, 2015) – Three Milwaukee County Parks lifeguards could be bringing home \$10,000 if they win the “Turf” component of Good Morning America’s “Lifeguard Surf & Turf Showdown” in New York City Friday. The show is broadcast from 7-9 a.m.

After competing in today’s Surf Day component, Milwaukee County’s “Team Blue” and the lifeguards from Golf Shores, AL qualified for the “Turf” component, which will determine the winner of the \$10,000.

Teams were put to the test in the Surf Day obstacle relay. Taylor Delong, assistant head lifeguard at Washington Park Pool, got a strong start suiting up in three inner tubes and passing the “baton” or flotation device to team member Michael Grimm, assistant head lifeguard at Bradford Beach.

Grimm, wearing flippers for the second leg of the event, ran with a bucket of water and doused his teammate Reid Van Dunk, head lifeguard at Bradford Beach.

To complete the final leg of the relay, Van Dunk dove into a beach-ball pit, retrieved a plastic lobster, slipped on the wet pavement but recovered to step onto the podium just after the lifeguard from Alabama.

The final match up will be broadcast live.

Milwaukee County Parks had answered the national call for entries and submitted the required 200-word essay and lip-synching video of the song “Shut up and Dance” by Walk the Moon.

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The essay notes that the Milwaukee County lifeguards take their role seriously and train diligently. It also mentions that the lifeguard program ensures that, along with the hard work, staff have opportunities for fun, including water polo and lifeguard competitions.

With Bradford Beach as the backdrop, the video was choreographed and shot by Kidd O'Shea and Elizabeth Kay, local radio personalities on 99.1 The Mix in Milwaukee. Sitting on the stairs of the beach house, 14 lifeguards sing and move their pith helmets in unison as Grimm executes a flip down the stairs. The cancan at Lake Michigan's shore is also featured.

The essay and video earned the group a spot among five semifinalists. Semifinalist videos were posted online for public voting July 27 and 28. The three videos receiving the highest number of votes each sent three lifeguards to the finals in New York.

Video entries of the semifinalists are available for viewing at <https://gma.yahoo.com/-gma--lifeguard-surf---turf-showdown--vote-for-your-favorite-team-to-compete-for--10k-162753187.html#>

Surf Day competition footage is available at <https://gma.yahoo.com/video/3-teams-face-off-gma-131122732.html>

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