



STEVE TSHWETE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

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MEDIA RELEASE:

Chief fire fighter receives top honours

Deputy Director: Fire and Rescue Services, Gert Stoltz, received top honours at the SAESI Fire and Emergency Conference on 15 May at the Expo Centre in Johannesburg.

Stoltz received the Honorary Lifetime Membership Award for long service in the industry and is the only firefighter in South Africa to have received this award.

He also received the Platinum Award for over 40 years service, one of only four firefighters in the country to receive this, three of whom are colleagues from Mpumalanga.

Stoltz loves his job and said it “proves enough what my calling in life is and my advice to any young person thinking of fire fighting as a career, is that it is not just a profession, you need to have a real calling and passion to do this work.”

Prior to joining the municipality 18 years ago on 01 August 1995, Stoltz worked at Germiston Municipality for 23 years. He has seen the fire department at STLM grow from eight fire fighters responsible for Middelburg and Mhluzi districts to 60 fire fighters and 24 control room attendants reporting to him, and seen the growth of vehicles, including fire engines from four to 25 vehicles in the past 18 years.

Stoltz is delighted that council is finally considering the approval of a fire station for Mhluzi township.

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Yours sincerely

WD Fouche
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