

media release

Australian Professional Firefighters Foundation



Firefighters shake their boots for Victoria

Friday, 13 February 2009

The Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) and Australian Professional Firefighters Foundation (APFF) in South Australia will team up **today** to **'Shake the Boot'** for the Victorian community.

Dozens of firefighters will shake their boots at shopping centres and community centres across Adelaide and regional South Australia to collect money for bushfire victims in Victoria.

MFS Acting Chief Officer, Mick Smith supports the initiative and encourages South Australians to dig deep.

"The Victorian community is currently dealing with tragedy, loss and devastation on a scale that the entire nation is struggling to comprehend.

"I urge all South Australians to open their hearts and give generously when they see APFF and MFS firefighters shaking their boots today.

"Their donations will go towards helping several communities in Victoria get back on their feet," Acting Chief Officer Smith says.

The APFF usually organises the 'Shake the Boot' event a few times a year to collect money for the paediatric burns service at the Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide.

However, the extent of damage and loss in Victoria has prompted the APFF and MFS firefighters to quickly organise a statewide 'Shake the Boot' event for Victorian bushfire victims.

One hundred per cent of funds raised through 'Shake the Boot' today will go to bushfire victims in Victoria.

APFF President, Greg Crossman is an MFS District Officer who is on stand-by for possible deployment to Victoria. He says the APFF is a registered charity that people can trust.

"People can be assured that if they give money to firefighters who are holding collection boots and wearing Shake the Boot shirts or a firefighter's uniform with official identification, they will be giving directly to Victorians who are affected by the bushfires."

Collecting for 'Shake the Boot' will occur in Adelaide on Friday, 13 February between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm at the following locations:

Rundle Mall, Adelaide Railway Station, Munno Para Shopping Centre, Golden Grove Village Shopping Centre, Marion Shopping Centre, Burnside Village Shopping Centre, Campbelltown Foodland, Happy Valley Foodland, Harbour Town, Adelaide Hills, Victor Harbor and the Glenelg Surf Life Saving Club.

'Shake the Boot' collecting will also occur in regional areas on Friday, 13 February, including:

Port Lincoln, Port Augusta, Port Pirie, Clare Valley, Renmark, Barossa, Mount Gambier, Murray Bridge, Moonta, Gawler and Murraylands.