

media release

Australian Professional Firefighters Foundation



Victorians benefit from 'Shake the Boot'

Tuesday, 17 February 2009

The Australian Professional Firefighters Foundation (APFF) and Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) would like to thank all South Australians for digging deep to raise **\$200 000** for the Victorian community.

Dozens of APFF and MFS firefighters joined volunteers across Adelaide and regional South Australia in collecting money for Victorian bushfire victims during last Friday's **'Shake the Boot'** event.

APFF President and MFS District Officer, Greg Crossman says he is stunned by the level of generosity shown by children, teenagers, adults, community groups, schools and businesses.

"The amount of people who walked up to our collectors at shopping centres and community centres to hand over anything from ten cents to hundreds - or even thousands - of dollars, was amazing.

"On behalf of the APFF I'd like to thank South Australians for showing great care and consideration for the many victims of the tragic fires in Victoria," Mr Crossman says.

MFS Acting Chief Officer, Mick Smith says the money will make a great deal of difference to many lives.

"Currently, thousands of people in Victoria require urgent emotional and financial support. The money raised during 'Shake the Boot' will help to ease the financial strain many bushfire victims are under," Mr Smith says.

Roughly half of the \$200 000 collected during Friday's **'Shake the Boot'** event was raised in Adelaide and the other half, in regional South Australia.

The APFF received large donations from many corporate organisations, including \$5 000 from Scania Australia.

All of the funds raised during 'Shake the Boot' will be forwarded to the Australian Red Cross Victorian Bushfire Appeal 2009.

The APFF would like to **thank Adelaide and regional media** for their support, particularly MIX 102.3 FM, for making the overwhelming public response to 'Shake the Boot' possible.

Mix 102.3 FM Program Director Stuart Endersby worked tirelessly with APFF member and senior firefighter Kevin 'Billy' Boyle to promote the event, but many other media outlets threw their support behind 'Shake the Boot'.

Many shops, community organisations and shopping centres also lent their support, including several Foodland supermarkets across the state.

The following is a breakdown of money collected so far in regional South Australia.

Moonta	\$8 750	Port Augusta	\$3 500
Murray Bridge	\$17 861	Port Pirie	\$3 974
Victor Harbor	\$16 500	Tanunda	\$1 286
Mt Gambier	\$ 11 006	Kadina	\$2 773
Port Lincoln	\$16 700	Kapunda	\$1 852
Renmark	\$5 700	Walleroo	\$1 783
Berri	\$4 700	Loxton	\$3 000

For further information call APFF member Kevin 'Billy' Boyle on 0410 641 879