

THE NEW AGE Pg 9 HAWKS (NW)POS 9/10/17

# Veteran Hawks officer honoured

ELFAS TORERAI

AFTER 27 years of dedicated service in the police, WO Lucky Mokheseng said that this year holds fond memories for him because he won his first award.

Mokheseng, 49, said that 22 years of unbroken service with the top crime fighting unit, the Hawks, had been especially gratifying.

The veteran cop received standing ovation for being the star of the night at the provincial awards held in Potchefstroom on Friday evening.

The awards, organised by the Hawks in the province, were meant as a pat on the back to dedicated officers who had made a difference in fighting crime across North West communities.

Mokheseng, who is attached to the Serious Organised Crime unit walked away with an award for serious crime investigator of the year for level 5-7 and he was also the overall winner of the year.

Mokheseng was central in many arrests specifically those related to drugs around the province.

"I feel very happy that for the first time in decades, I have been honoured in this manner. It's an exciting moment for me and this poses as a challenge for improved performance going forward," he said.

The officer reiterated thanked those he had worked with in recording numerous success stories that helped curb crime.

"I'm based in Klerksdorp and I want to thank the team I work with. Special mention also goes to the informers who have confided in me vital information. I want to thank them and say that our relationship should continue," he said.

The drug scourge and other serious crimes in the Klerksdorp communities and elsewhere in the province remain



**RECOGNITION:** Maj-Gen Linda Mbana, far right, hands over awards to dedicated, long serving members in Potchefstroom on Friday.

challenges the Hawks have to deal with.

Col Rasekaka Makuoane – the provincial commander for serious organised crime also walked away with two awards, one for man of the year and the second one for provincial commander of the year.

In her remarks at the awards, North West DPCI head, Maj-Gen Linda Mbana said that she was hopeful other members will be inspired to work harder in order to be recipients of the awards next year.

"The awards are aimed to celebrate members who selflessly dedicate their lives to the cause of fighting priority crimes by not only doing what is expected of them but also going beyond the call of duty," she said.

The award for investigating team of the year was scooped by the unit, prior-

ity violent crime for their ground breaking investigation in Marikana that led to the arrest of 14 men alleged to have been involved in the murder of former ward councillor.

Some of the dignitaries present at the event were MEC for economy, finance and enterprise development, Wendy Nelson who delivered the keynote address.

Acting national head of the DPCI, Lt-Gen Matakata was also present at the ceremony.

A message of support was rendered by the permanent representative to the UN and the International Organisations in Vienna, ambassador Tebogo Seokolo.

The executive mayor of the JB Marks municipality, Khotso Khumala also graced the event.

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# Two to appear for possession of R170K drugs

ELFAS TORERAI

TWO men appear in the Stillfontein Magistrate's Court facing charges of possession of drugs in two separate incidents.

The pair, aged 29 and 36 were arrested at a roadblock after drugs worth a combined R170 000 was found in their possession.

North West police spokesperson, Lt-Col Amanda Funani said the arrest showed the seriousness of the police in getting rid of drugs.

"This was confirmed when they nabbed two men aged 29 and 36 during a joint roadblock that was conducted by Stillfontein police and the provincial

traffic department.

According to information the 29-year-old suspect was arrested after police stopped and searched a taxi that he was travelling in. During the search, the police recovered CAT in the suspect's bag with a street value of R122 800," Funani said.

In the second arrest, a 36-year-old man was apprehended after police found CAT with a street value of R42 800 in the vehicle that he was travelling in.

"Both suspects are expected to appear in the Stillfontein Magistrate's Court on charges of illegal possession of drugs today," Funani said.

Provincial police commissioner,

Lt-Gen Baile Motswenyane congratulated the two departments for working together in making sure that drug lords do not walk and work freely in North communities.

Meanwhile, a 21-year-old man who fatally assaulted another after a heated argument will appear in the Atamelang Magistrate's Court today on a murder charge.

The accused was arrested on Friday. Lt-Col Amanda Funani said the victim in this instance was a 30-year-old man.

"The suspect's court appearance came after he was arrested on Friday for the murder of a 30-year-old man. According to information received the

two were seen arguing while on their way home. It was reported that the suspect and the victim were from a local tavern and a fight ensued.

The suspect assaulted the victim with stones. He was taken to a local clinic where he later died," she said.

In Ga-Rankuwa, a woman also faces a murder charge after she fatally stabbed her husband at the weekend.

Funani said both the accused and the deceased were aged 27.

"According to information received the two were at their residential place when they started fighting. It is alleged the wife took out a knife and stabbed her husband," she said.

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# Informant says cop ratted her out to thugs

North West  
woman in hiding

By **Tankiso Makhetha**

A registered police informant has fled her home in North West after her identity was revealed to suspects she helped police to bring down.

A furious Nthabiseng Modise (she agreed to her name being used) has accused police of endangering her life after her name was leaked to suspects who were found guilty of murdering North West organised crime unit Inspector Daniel Chaleko in 2007.

Chaleko's double-cab van was found abandoned near Boikutso outside Lichtenburg on April 28 2007. His body was found the next day at a village in Springbokpan between Lichtenburg and Mahikeng. He had been shot once in the head and once in the stomach.

"I gave police information about the murder of one of their members in 2007," Modise told Sowetan.

"I then found out a few days later that one of the arresting officers who was part of a team that apprehended the suspects had told them who I was and that I had given information about them [to the police]," Modise said.

She said three attempts had been made on her life and she has been forced to go into hiding for fear of her life and her four-year-old child's.

"A group of men came to my house and broke my window and demanded that I come out because they knew that I gave police information about the murder and said they would kill me," she said.

A Hawks member who cannot be named because he is not authorised to speak to the media confirmed that he was responsible for investigating the matter and had found that Modise's identity had been compromised.

Hawks spokesman Brigadier Hangwani Mulaudzi said the Hawks had made recommendations for disciplinary steps to be taken against the officer who had compromised Modise.

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