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THE OMBUDSMAN FOR SHORT-TERM INSURANCE RECEIVES ORGANISATIONAL CHAMPION AWARD FOR 2007 FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

The Ombudsman for Short-Term Insurance was awarded the Organisational Champion Award for 2007 by the Department of Trade and Industry at a glittering awards ceremony held in Pretoria.

The Department of Trade and Industry (the DTI) annually hosts Consumer Champion Awards to recognise and reward individuals and organisations that advance the rights of consumers in South Africa. The Organisational Champion Award is awarded to a business association or committee that has made a significant and demonstrable contribution to raising public awareness about consumer issues or harmful business practices, consumer research and advocacy of consumer issues.

"We are absolutely delighted and honoured to be the recipient of this prestigious award and would like to thank the Department of Trade and Industry for recognising our efforts in consumer issues. It is heartening to see that we have been able to assist many people of humble backgrounds in asserting their rights against a R45 billion per annum industry", says Brian Martin, the Ombudsman for Short-Term Insurance.

"Last year we successfully assisted approximately two thousand people in resolving disputes claims, saving them huge amounts in litigation costs and time. This is a remarkable achievement which can only be attributed to the commitment, dedication and hard work of our often overtaxed staff", says the Ombudsman.

The Ombudsman for Short-Term Insurance is an independent organisation, which applies the law together with fairness and equity in resolving disputes between consumers and short-term insurers. It provides a free service to complainants whose claims have been rejected or partially admitted by short-term insurance companies.

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