

20 young officers graduate

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AFTER a year's further education and training at the Gene Louw Traffic College, 20 young officers graduated last week and said they were ready to start making the province's roads safer.

Twenty new graduates of Gene Louw Traffic College were looking forward to starting work at various traffic centres today.

The new officers, who graduated on Friday, have successfully completed the 12-month further education and training certificate: road traffic law enforcement, which makes them qualified traffic officers, who can act in that capacity to make our roads safer.

Franco Frantz from Malmesbury scooped two awards at the graduation ceremony, when he won the Road Transportation Unit Standard Top Achiever and was recognised as the best overall achiever, with a final mark of 75%.

"I am looking forward to being a traffic officer and I know it is going to come with challenges. There is an important service to be rendered and it is necessary to get the support and trust of road users.

"However, I think I am ready for this responsibility," Frantz said.

Frantz will be based at the Brackenfell traffic centre.

Nzwabantu Mbuleni from Khayelitsha also walked off with two awards of Top Achiever in Musketry and Legal Unit Standards Top Achiever. He will also be based at the Brackenfell traffic centre.

"It is an honour to have become a



GRADUATES: The newly qualified traffic officers will enforce the law.

qualified traffic officer. It has been a long journey for me.

"The next step is to become a good role model and make a meaningful contribution to road safety."

Fifteen of the graduates will join the Western Cape provincial traffic services, two will work for Knysna municipality, one for Breede Valley municipality, one for Hessequa municipality and one for the Mbhashe municipality in the Eastern Cape.

The department of transport and public works was confident that these newly qualified traffic officers would make the roads safer for all residents through diligent traffic law enforcement in the Western Cape and beyond.

Western Cape MEC for transport and public works Donald Grant said: "Over the last year, course participants

received training accredited by the safety and security sector education and training authority and Road Traffic Management Corporation.

"The course including instruction on the National Road Traffic Act, the Criminal Procedure Act and guidelines for road traffic law enforcement.

"Participants also successfully completed firearm competency training, first aid training and training in basic firefighting. Those from provincial traffic services received additional driver training, including articulated motor vehicle and motorcycle training.

"All the trainees were deployed to various traffic centres to gain practical experience of traffic law enforcement during the Easter and December holiday periods."

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