

From the Chief Officer



30 June 2016

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Message from the Chief to members

Throughout my career I've been privileged to work in many public safety organisations across the emergency services and within government. I have worked across the breadth of Victoria, in most states of Australia, and internationally.

I have been repeatedly impressed and awed at the commitment of emergency services personnel to serve their communities. In particular my inspiration has been drawn from the work that CFA's volunteers and career staff do everyday on the frontline for Victorians.

It was an absolute honour to accept the role of CFA's Chief Officer. The privilege to serve in the critical role of Chief has never been lost on me, nor has the accountability the role carries.

The safety of the community has always been, and remains my highest priority.

The principles with which I live, mean I take my legislated responsibilities as Chief Officer very seriously.

In my opinion I am now in circumstances where my ability to effectively carry out my role is compromised by an industrial agreement. In addition, it impedes my vision for CFA as a modern, contemporary and inclusive emergency service.

I believe the agreement will tie the hands of those who are obliged by law to protect the safety of Victorians.

It is with great sadness and reluctance that I have tendered my resignation.

I thank each and every individual at CFA for your commitment to the community and your willingness to support each other through these difficult times.

I know you will continue to serve the Victorian community to the highest standards I have been privileged to be part of. This is at core of the CFA spirit.

I will always reflect on my time as Chief Officer with an immense sense of pride, knowing the great lengths which each and every individual representing the organisation is willing to go to keep Victorians safe.

The genuine care and concern we all show for each other during this time can make all the difference.

Follow me on  **CFA Chief Officer**  **@JoeBVic**

This email is sent directly to addresses registered with CFA. CFA members can update their contact details via **Brigades Online**, by phoning FIRS on 1800 62 88 44, or by emailing rmsadmin@cfa.vic.gov.au

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CFA Headquarters
8 Lakeside Drive
Burwood East VIC 3151

Questions? Phone Wendy on
8822 8091