



BULLETIN

Bulletin No: 003

23 May 2022

TO ALL UFUA MEMBERS

UFUA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTER OCCUPATIONAL CANCER FORUM 2022

As members will be aware, the UFUA Professional Firefighter Occupational Cancer Forum was held on the 15 and 16 March 2022 at Crown Casino in Melbourne.

The Forum was well attended and the UFUA is proud to report that delegations from WA, SA, Aviation, ACT, Tasmania and Victoria branches were in attendance.

On Day 1, following a comprehensive introduction from the UFUA National Secretary Peter Marshall, UFUA members heard from keynote speaker Mr Alex Forrest on key scientific developments in firefighter cancer studies. UFUA members also heard from FRV Commissioner Ken Block and FRV CMO Dr Joe Monteith on the modernisation of medical screening for Firefighters. The UFUA thanks Dr Samantha Ratnam MLC (Greens) for opening the Forum and Mr Andy Meddick MLC (Animal Justice Party) for his important words on the day.

Day 1 concluded with a Panel that interacted with the audience and answered questions asked by UFUA members both at the Forum and on the livestream link around Australia.

On Day 2, UFUA National President Greg McConville presented on the UFUA's submission to the 2019 Federal Review of Presumptive Legislation and outlined the workplan for the UFUA National Office. His presentation was followed by a presentation by Personal Injury specialist lawyer James Carlson from Slater + Gordon who broke down the operation of the workers compensation system and

presumptive legislation for Firefighters. FRV ACFO Mick Tisbury followed and provided information on the Macquarie University PFAS Blood Study, the findings of which have now been released. National Secretary Peter Marshall provided a 'conference wrap up' to conclude.

The Forum fostered an environment for members in person and virtually to ask questions and draw on the wealth of experience from the Forum speakers in relation to Professional Firefighter Occupational Cancer, the importance of Firefighter-specific Presumptive Legislation, and the workplan moving forward.

In addition to livestreaming the event, Crown Events also provided to the UFUA a video copy of the Forum. **Members are encouraged to take the time to view the Showcase via the following links:**

Day 1 P1 - <https://vimeo.com/712712361/7789fb1974>

Day 1 P2- <https://vimeo.com/712712361/7789fb1974>

Day 2 - <https://vimeo.com/705243276/377cbfbb31>

The Forum was a resounding success and we are deeply grateful to have had such insightful and knowledgeable conference speakers and esteemed guests in attendance.

Additionally, we thank Mr Forrest for taking the time out of his busy schedule to travel to Australia.

To UFUA members who were in attendance we thank you, we are grateful to have held this highly beneficial event.

Strength in Unity
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Authorised by National and Branch Secretary Peter Marshall