



BULLETIN

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1 August 2012

TO ALL UFUA MEMBERS

UFUA STATUS AS THE FEDERAL UNION FOR FIREFIGHTERS PRESERVED. LITIGATION WITHDRAWN

As members may be aware, there has been a federal exercise in matching state based registered unions with a Federal Counterpart.

Federal regulations have now been passed which match a number of state based firefighter unions with the UFUA as the federal counterpart.

These regulations proclaim that the UFUA is the federal counterpart of the FBEU and the other state unions. This enshrines the UFUA as the organisation that will represent the interests of firefighters in the federal industrial arena.

Members may also be aware that the FBEU had previously signalled an intention to set up an alternative federal organisation for firefighters. At a Special General Meeting in October 2010 the FBEU recorded *“in principle support for the establishment of a new federation of and for Australian Firefighters”*.

The proclamation of the UFUA as the federal counterpart of the FBEU cuts across any such attempt by the FBEU to establish a new federation.

Further, if state based unions are to operate in the federal jurisdiction they are required to do so in cooperation with the federally registered organisation.

Members would also be aware that the UFUA has had two legal proceedings on foot regarding the NSW Branch's failure to pay capitation fees, and conspiring to injure the UFUA by promoting mass resignations from the NSW UFUA Branch whilst remaining members of the FBEU.

After a National Executive discussion, the UFUA decided to withdraw the proceedings given that the integrity of the UFUA as *the* federal organisation for firefighters has been preserved.

Having resolved the above matters, the UFUA can concentrate on pursuing matters that affect all Australian firefighters.

Strength in Unity

**AUTHORISED BY NATIONAL SECRETARY PETER MARSHALL
AND NATIONAL PRESIDENT MICK FARRELL**

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