



BULLETIN

Bulletin No: 009

16 November 2015

TO ALL UFUA MEMBERS

GLOBAL FIREFIGHTING COMMUNITY STANDS IN SOLIDARITY WITH FRENCH FIREFIGHTERS RESPONDING TO THE TERRORIST ATTACKS

The terrorist events in Paris have shocked the world.

The UFUA is writing to our colleagues in the French fire services to offer our condolences and to assure them that they are in the thoughts of the global firefighting community.

These incidents are a stark reminder to local emergency services of the role we would be called upon to perform if a major incident occurred in our environment. Increasingly firefighters are being called upon as first responders to attend all forms of critical incidents including acts of terror.

The professionalism and dedication of our French firefighting colleagues were on display to the world this weekend. We are proud of their timely and sustained response.

The European Fire Fighter Unions Alliance has thrown its support behind all affected. Their statement reads: *"Europe's firefighters stand united against terrorism. Our thoughts go to the victims and their families."*

Additionally the EFFUA works closely with the IFFUA (International Fire Fighter Unions Alliance) and the Paris events will be high on the agenda of the next meeting of the IFFUA during a meeting scheduled for this week. (UFUA National Secretary Peter Marshall is also the Chair of the IFFUA).

As professional Australian firefighters we go about our work daily: fighting fires, dealing with car and workplace accidents, and maintaining life through emergency medical response until ambulance crews arrive to take over.

This is what we are trained to do. Protecting the community is both our job and our passion. Generally this work goes unheralded. The lives and property saved are brief lines in an annual report.

But an incident like Paris throws this work into sharp relief. Many images at the weekend showed firefighters assisting the casualties of these events, applying first aid and transporting victims.

Any member who has been affected by the events of the weekend is reminded of the peer support available.

We pray that our services will never be tested in this way, yet we must remain alert and prepared if called upon.

Meanwhile, keep up your great work and stay safe.

Strength in Unity
READ OUT AT MUSTER AND PIN ON NOTICE BOARD
Authorised by National Secretary Peter Marshall

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