

## SUBMISSION OF GREG HUNTER

1. I, Greg Hunter, Station Officer (**SO**) with the Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board (**MFB**), [REDACTED], in the State of Victoria, say as follows:
2. I have been employed by the MFB for 38 years. I currently hold the rank of SO and I have held that rank for 28 year.
3. As well as holding the rank of SO I hold the following qualifications/memberships:
  - i. Workplace Trainer and Assessor Certificate V
  - ii. Heavy Rescue certified
  - iii. Trench Rescue certified
  - iv. Elevated Work Platform certified
  - v. Waterway Emergency Responder certified
  - vi. Master 5 Restricted Sea
  - vii. UFU Membership
  - viii. Panton Hill Tennis Club Member
  - ix. Hastings Yacht Club Member
  - x. MFB Tennis Club Member
  - xi. St Andrews Pony Club
4. I have also received the Chief Fire Officers commendation

### **Morale at Work**

5. I feel that the morale at work has decreased during the Napthine Government (2010-2014) starting with the appointment of Nick Easy as CEO. I believe the morale has also decreased as a result of the MFB's attempt to set aside the Enterprise Agreement. Aside from the negative impact on wages and conditions, the loss of firefighter input to change of equipment and procedures and consequent impact on work place health and safety created great anxiety.
6. The morale at work has also decreased due to CFA stations needing to be crewed by MFB firefighters with a lack of familiarity with the area, station and interaction with volunteers.

### **Equipment and Staffing**

7. I believe that the standards of equipment and operational response have decreased during the Napthine Government. .
8. I also believe that the staffing levels are currently not adequate to protect the Victorian Community and firefighters with turning out with three manning crew.

### **Interoperability**

9. I have experienced issues arising from lack of interoperability between the CFA and MFB. An example of this found in the observation reports for turn outs with CFA volunteers.
10. I want to see increased interoperability between the agencies achieved by increasing the secondment program.

**Senior Management**

11. There is a disconnect between Senior Management in the fire services and their employees as a result of hostility towards operational staff. Their use of security guards to attend the Fair Work Commission was humiliating and really highlighted to firefighters how our senior management viewed us.
12. Another example of Management's disdain for firefighters occurred when I made a request to Senior Management for particular information relating to a health and safety matter. In response I was simply given an FOI form.
13. I have lost trust and confidence in senior management I do not believe the relationship can be repaired because most senior management have a proven track record of self interest and an extreme lack of honour and integrity.

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Greg Hunter

Date: