



## BULLETIN

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TO ALL UFUA MEMBERS

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# NCOM Speakers on PFAS: Videos Now Available

Three new videos have been uploaded to the National website, introducing each speaker who reported on PFAS at our NCOM conference earlier this month. The presenters were part of a combined presentation entitled 'PFAS: Achievements and Next Steps'. These short videos allow each speaker to talk a little about their background, their involvement with PFAS health concerns and outline future plans for eradicating PFAS as a danger for firefighters. The three speakers were Professor Mark Patrick Taylor, Deborah Glass, and Mick Tisbury.

Professor Mark Patrick Taylor is Victoria's Chief Environment Scientist and Honorary Professor Macquarie University. In this video, the Professor summarises the PFAS study that he did with Fire Rescue Victoria while he was at Macquarie University and the findings into the benefits of blood donating in reducing PFAS levels in the body. The video can be accessed here:

<https://www.ufua.asn.au/ufua-national-conference-2022/>

Deborah Glass is an Associate Professor (Research) Monash University. She introduces the forthcoming research study into the Effects of PFAS Exposure in Firefighters, which is funded by Government of Medical Research Council. The study aims to look at the cancer and mortality rate of firefighters compared with the general population and to gauge the wider health impacts of exposure to PFAS on the body. The study will be a comprehensive and extensive undertaking, working closely with firefighters. To view the video of Deborah Glass, please follow this link

<https://www.ufua.asn.au/ufua-national-conference-2022/>

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Mick Tisbury is the Assistant Chief Fire Officer of Advocacy and ACFO of Advocacy at Fire Rescue Victoria. In this video, Mick speaks on the content of his NCOM presentation regarding PFAS mitigation measures implemented in Victoria, which include not just limiting exposure in firefighting foam but also counteracting past exposure through blood donations.

Mick advocates for the Federal Government to implement avenues for firefighters to give therapeutic blood donations (therapeutic venesection) where standard donation is not available. He also calls for the Federal Government to ratify the Stockholm Convention following recent additions to the list of pollutants covered by it. Mick's video from NCOM can be accessed here:

<https://www.ufua.asn.au/ufua-national-conference-2022/>

*Authorised by National Secretary Greg McConville*