



Statement 18th August 2025 – VICSESVA Wind Up Process

Dear VICSES Volunteers,

We want to address the recent action taken by the Victoria State Emergency Service Volunteers Association (VICSESVA) to apply to the Supreme Court of Victoria for the winding up of the Association and the transfer of its funds out of Victoria.

As volunteers with leadership roles in VICSES units, and as a collective group, the VLG is deeply dismayed and strongly opposed to this course of action. We are outraged at the suggestion that funds built up by the Victorian community for the support of the work and efforts of Victorian SES volunteers could be taken out of our state and transferred to a national association.

This concern is magnified by the fact that the two VICSESVA board members initiating this action, are also current board members of the very national association they propose to transfer the Victorian funds to. We see this as a clear conflict of interest and one which calls into question the fairness and integrity of the application.

We are in the process of obtaining legal advice and will keep all volunteers updated as the situation unfolds. We will fight to ensure that the voice of Victorian SES volunteers is heard and that our funds remain in Victoria to support Victorian SES Volunteers and Units.

We also want to remind you that the VLG is now formally incorporated and governed by an interim board. We have already developed policies and procedures to ensure accountability and inclusiveness in the running of the organisation, with a particular focus on engaging all VICSES members in leading and setting the goals and objectives of the organisation during its foundation period. We are building the foundation for a truly democratic model, which will include elected representatives from each Unit Area Group supported by delegates from individual units. Our mission is to deliver the genuine, representative voice that volunteers in Victoria deserve and have long been asking for.

We know this recent news will cause frustration, disappointment and anger. We share those feelings. But we also ask all volunteers to remain calm and confident that we will approach this challenge with integrity, determination, and professionalism. A reminder for us all, these matters can raise emotional reactions and distress. Peer support is available to us all for this or any other matter.

We will provide further updates as soon as we are able. As always, we are happy to discuss this further if required. Email contact@vicsesvlg.org.au

Kind Regards,

VICSES Volunteer Leadership Group Interim Board

