



**UNITED FIREFIGHTERS UNION  
OF AUSTRALIA  
WEST AUSTRALIAN BRANCH**

**CIRCULAR**

President: Kevin Jolly *AFSM*

Secretary: Lea Anderson

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**CIRCULAR NO: 22/2018**

## **DFES PFAS Blood Testing**

**Attention All Members:**

**Following the issuing of DFES General Circular 103/2018, BLOOD TESTING PROGRAM – POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS), the Union encourages all members to actively participate in this very important program.**

The Union has been working with the Department for a considerable time to progress this initiative, and fully supports its implementation.

Bearing in mind that our current B class foam contains a relatively high PFAS 6:2fts measurement, and that this is now thought to be potentially as toxic as PFOS and PFOA, we would encourage everyone to participate, not just those who “may have used or been in contact with Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF)”.

Additionally, there is recent evidence that suggests AFFF may still be present within some areas of the Department in foam extinguishers.

We consider that it is in the best interest of all present and past members to participate in order to create a comprehensive and de-identified data base, so that our members are best placed as the knowledge and literature on firefighting foams’ toxicity continues to develop and evolve.

The agreed testing program is in line with other Australian states, further enhancing the creation of the data base.

Please contact the Union Office should you wish to obtain any further information.

Strength In Unity,

Kevin Jolly  
Branch President

**Please read at Muster and post on Notice Board**