



22 June 2023

Katherine O'Hara
Branch Secretary
United Firefighters' Union of Australia-West Australian Branch
Sent via email: admin@ufuofwa.net.au

cc: admin@ufua.asn.au

Dear Katherine O'Hara



IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED:

You must take steps after your recent election E2023/86

An election has recently been completed by the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) for the United Firefighters' Union of Australia-West Australian Branch.

This letter explains the next steps you must take and what information you need to lodge with the Fair Work Commission (the Commission).

What you must do right now

- Let your members know about the election report issued by the AEC
- Arrange financial training for officers newly elected to an office with financial management duties. (This includes all members of the committee of management).
- Complete the notification of change and email it to regorgs@fwc.gov.au

This letter explains these steps and the tools available to help you.

STEP 1: Notify members

You must put a notice on your website once you receive your post-election report. It must tell your members they can request a copy of the post-election report from you or the AEC (regulation 141). The notice must be on your website for at least three months.



Can I put more information on our website?

Yes! Being transparent is part of good governance. You can publish the whole report or the declaration of results, as well as your notice and leave them up longer than three months. You can always do more than the regulatory minimum.

The Commission will also publish your declaration of results on our [website](#).

STEP 2: Financial training

You may have to arrange financial training for people elected to new roles.

All officers with financial management duties must complete financial training (section 293K). For information on when officers must redo training and hints on when to book training for officers taking up multiple offices [please see our fact sheet](#).

There are face to face and online [financial training packages on the Commission website](#).

You must act on this now, as affected officers **MUST** complete approved financial training OR been granted an [exemption by the Commission within six months](#) of beginning to hold office.



Good governance tip:

Organisations should instruct officer holders about their other obligations. This is especially important for committee of management members.

Our podcast covers the [benefits of officer induction](#). Officers have responsibilities under the rules, the RO Act, and disclosure requirements around conflicts of interest, remuneration and material personal interests. Officers will benefit from our [officer induction kit](#) and our [podcast, such as episode 17 - conflicts of interest](#).

STEP 3: Notifications of change



A notification of change must be lodged with the Commission within **35 days** of the change occurring.

We have a [template](#) to help you with this, which you can send to regorgs@fwc.gov.au. An officer must sign the completed notification template.

You must lodge a notification of change if:

- any of your officers have not been re-elected;
- officers have changed offices; or
- you have new officers.

Only notify us of changes that have **already occurred**. If people take up office in the future, you must wait until the change happens before lodging the notification within 35 days of the change.

Note: One election may result in many notifications of change.



Penalties apply

Failing to lodge your notifications of change on time can expose your organisation and its officers to significant penalties.

ROC v CEPU

The organisation failed to make a series of notifications of change on time.

The Full Court said ‘The record-keeping obligations imposed under the Registered Organisations Act are treated by the legislature as important and serious, and contravention of those obligations are correspondingly serious.’

The organisation was ordered to pay a penalty. More information is available in our [case summary](#).



Why do I need to tell you the results of the election when you’ve already received them?

The RO Act requires that **you** tell us this information about your officers – it is a legal obligation. The notification of change also contains information that is not in the declaration of results.

What if the officer has already done training?

Check out our [fact sheet](#) for when officers need to redo training, when they can get an exemption and when further training isn’t required.

If you have any queries we can be contacted on 1300 341 665 or by email at regorgs@fwc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Fair Work Commission



The Commission has a [Compliance Policy](#) which explains how we respond to issues of non-compliance. The policy is available on our website if you would like further information on the steps the compliance team may take in response to non-lodgement of a financial report.

21 June 2023

Post-election report

United Firefighters' Union of Australia

UFUA - West Australia Branch

Casual Vacancy election

E2023/86

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Election(s) Covered in this Report

Organisation: UFUA - West Australia Branch
Election: Casual Vacancy
Election Decision No/s: E2023/86

Rules

Rules used for the election: 259V: Incorporates alterations of 8 September 2022 [R2022/65]

Rules difficult to apply/interpret: No

Model Rule reference (if any): N/A

For more details see the Model Rules on the AEC website: www.aec.gov.au/ieb/

Other Matters

Returning Officer actions required (Section 193): No
Details: N/A

Signed

Ben Murray
Returning Officer
Australian Electoral Commission
E: IEEvents@aec.gov.au
P: 03 9285 7111
21 June 2023

Attachments

A. Declaration of results for Uncontested Offices – WA

United Firefighters' Union of Australia (UFUA)
West Australia Branch
DECLARATION OF RESULTS - E2023/86
Uncontested Offices

Casual Vacancy Election

The results of the election for the following offices conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* and the rules of the organisation are:

West Australia Branch

Branch Ordinary Committee of Management Member - Firefighter (1)

Candidates

JONES Chris

As the number of nominations accepted did not exceed the number of positions to be filled, I declare the above candidate elected.

Ben Murray
Returning Officer
Telephone: 03 9285 7111
Email: IEBevents@aec.gov.au
21/06/2023





DECISION

Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009
s.189—Arrangement for conduct of an election

United Firefighters' Union of Australia
(E2023/86)

MR STEENSON

SYDNEY, 8 MAY 2023

Arrangement for conduct of election.

[1] On 21 April 2023 the West Australian Branch of the United Firefighters' Union of Australia lodged with the Fair Work Commission prescribed information for an election to fill a casual vacancy in the following office for the remainder of the term:

Branch Ordinary Committee of Management Member - Firefighter (1)

[2] I am satisfied that an election for the abovenamed office is required to be held under the rules of the organisation and, under subsection 189(3) of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*, I am making arrangements for the conduct of the election by the Australian Electoral Commission.



DELEGATE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

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PR755048

**PRESCRIBED INFORMATION FOR ELECTIONS in accordance with
Section 189 *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* and
Regulation 138 *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Regulations
2009***

I, Katherine O'Hara, being the Branch Secretary of the United Firefighters Union of Australia West Australian Branch (UFUAWA) make the following statement:

1. I am authorised to sign this statement containing prescribed information for the UFUAWA.
2. The following information is lodged under subsection 189(1) of the Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009 (the RO Act).
3. The election that is required is set out in the table in Annexure A.
4. The resignation email is attached for the casual vacancy.
5. No rule alterations are pending that will impact the election.

Signed:



Katherine O'Hara UFUAWA Branch Secretary

Dated:

21/04/2023

NOTE: This statement should be lodged with the Fair Work Commission at least 2 months prior to nominations opening. It can be submitted to regorgs@fwc.gov.au.

Annexure A

- Elections that are required [insert as many pages as required]

Branch	Name of Office	Number required	Voting System Direct voting system; Collegiate electoral system	Reason for Election Scheduled; Casual vacancy; New office created; Insufficient nominations	Electorate
UFUA WA Branch	Branch Ordinary Committee of Management Member - Firefighter	1	Direct Voting System	Casual vacancy	UFUA WA Branch Membership Rule 71 of the Rules of the United Firefighters Union of Australia

	Direct Voting System	Collegiate Electoral System
Nominations OPEN	To be determined by Branch Returning Officer – Rule 71.	N/A
Nominations CLOSE	To be determined by Branch Returning Officer – Rule 71	N/A
Roll of Voters cut off date	To be determined by the Returning Officer.	N/A

NOTES: For insufficient nominations and casual vacancies, the date nominations open and close, unless specified in the rules, should be listed as 'To be determined by the returning officer'. This also applies where rules are silent as to the nominated dates.

If the nomination dates are 'To be Determined by the Returning Officer', but your organisation has a preference, please state 'To be Determined by Returning Officer' and clearly indicate that your nominated date is a preference.

If the P.I. includes a position that is not an office, please refer to our template [*Prescribed information for the election of officer and non-officer positions*](#).