

# media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



## Injured firefighters make progress

Monday, 15 April 2013

Two Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) firefighters injured in an Adelaide house fire last week are taking significant steps in the recovery process.

One firefighter who received 6 % burns during a house fire at Beverley on Tuesday, 9 April is being discharged from the Royal Adelaide Hospital today. He will now continue recuperating with the support of family, friends and MFS colleagues and looks forward to returning to work in the near future.

A second MFS firefighter, who received 40 % burns during the same incident is also making positive progress. The firefighter has been transferred from Intensive Care to the Royal Adelaide Hospital's Burns Unit, where he will continue to recover and receive treatment.

Both firefighters and their families have been overwhelmed by the positive messages of support from the public, emergency services community and their colleagues. They've indicated this support has lifted their spirits and helped the recovery.

**The following statement is provided by Acting Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Peter Button on behalf of injured firefighters:**

*"Today is a significant day in the recovery process for our injured firefighters; one is being discharged from hospital. The other firefighter, who suffered approximately 40 % burns, is now recovering well in the Royal Adelaide Hospital's Burns Unit.*

*While both firefighters still have much healing to do, it is expected that in time, they will fully recover.*

*Both firefighters wish to thank the paramedics, MFS firefighters and police officers who assisted them at the scene of the fire. Medical staff have indicated that their actions reduced the severity of their injuries and therefore greatly assisted and hastened their recovery.*

*Since the Beverley house fire, both firefighters have been overwhelmed by the messages of concern and support flowing in from the public, emergency services community and their MFS colleagues. For these messages of support, both firefighters say a heartfelt thank you.*

*Both firefighters would also like to thank the Doctors, Nurses and staff at the Royal Adelaide Hospital for their high level of care, skill and professionalism. South Australians are truly fortunate to have a world-class burns medical team available to them if tragedy strikes.*

*The Beverley house fire incident highlights the inherent dangers firefighters face in exercising their responsibilities and how their diligence in following safety procedures, including wearing breathing apparatus and protective equipment, can save firefighters from potentially devastating consequences.*

*Our firefighter leaves hospital today with a strong network of support around him, including family, friends and MFS colleagues. We wish him a speedy recovery. He looks forward to returning to work and we look forward to welcoming him back on the trucks in the near future.*

*While the public interest in the fire fighting efforts of our two injured firefighters is greatly appreciated, the injured firefighters and their families have asked that the media refrain from contacting them or their family members at this difficult time.*

*It is also requested that the media do not approach our injured firefighters, their families, nor their homes under any circumstances. This is vital to the recovery process. Thank you."*

**For media enquiries and interviews call the MFS Media Line on (08) 8204 3770**

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