



# Media Release

## SA Metropolitan Fire Service

### **Former US college basketballer tops MFS Recruit Squad**

Friday, 17 December 2021

A former US college basketballer and veterinary student has topped the class of the state's 18 newest Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) firefighters, who'll graduate today.

Recruit Firefighter Megan Quinn finishes the squad as Dux, with her peers, Recruit Firefighters Oscar Munn and Dennis McEvoy receiving the Practical and Theory awards respectively.

The trio are part of a squad of 18 recruits who've just completed the highly competitive and gruelling MFS recruit firefighter program.

Minister for Emergency Services, Vincent Tarzia, said the new recruits have already achieved so much just to secure a place in the squad.

"Firefighting is a highly sought-after profession, and these recruits have competed against more than 1,500 other hopefuls across Australia for the opportunity to become an MFS recruit," Minister Tarzia said.

"The recruits proudly graduated today and are raring to start their new careers. They have a significant responsibility to protect South Australian lives, homes, businesses, assets, infrastructure and the environment."

MFS Chief Officer, Michael Morgan said although teamwork and community service are key hallmarks of firefighting, each recruit will have the freedom to pursue their own career path.

"While these recruits will begin their careers as operational firefighters, there is a wide variety of potential career paths with the MFS available to them. As firefighters, they'll be able to tailor their careers to match to their skills and interests.

"Some may choose to rise through the ranks in metropolitan or regional operational firefighting, while others may wish to progress their careers in any one of several specialist areas, such as Special Operations, Learning and Development, Community Safety, Built Environs, Wellness and Safety, Infrastructure and Logistics or management," MFS Chief Officer Morgan said.

Many of today's recruit firefighters have persevered for several years, in some cases up to a decade, for a chance to secure a place in an MFS recruit squad.

The professional backgrounds of today's recruits include exercise physiology, veterinary science, train driving, disability support, building renovations, protective security, glazing, carpentry, laboratory technician, early childhood education and community programs with the AFL.

The recruit squad also has a diverse sporting background, ranging from basketball, soccer, surfing, swimming, volleyball, and cricket, through to bodybuilding and ultimate frisbee.

Over the past 16 weeks, the recruits have completed more than 700 hours of physical training and 100 in-class lectures. Each recruit brings a wealth of professional and life experience that will help them in their new profession of firefighting.

For media enquiries please telephone the MFS Media Line on (08) 8204 3770

Members of the public should call the MFS Community Engagement Department on (08) 8204 3611 during business hours for further information. Country callers 1300 737 637.