Australian Government
Department of Defence

Mr Bronte Wilson
Moderator Uniting Church SA
PO Box 2145
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Mr Wilson

IN APPRECIATION OF YOUR SUPPORT OF OPERATION BUSHFIRE ASSIST 2019-20

OPERATION BUSHFIRE ASSIST 2019-20 was the largest call out of the part time (reserve) of the Australian Defence Force since World War II. The ability of our part time ADF Chaplains to be force assigned, and assist in ministry to both the members of the ADF and the greater Australian Community was strongly supported by churches and para-church organisations by their release of clergy from their regular duties to the ADF. The period of release to ADF duties was lengthy, however, there were many thousands of Australians who were spiritually and pastorally supported throughout the operation.

On behalf of the Commander of Joint Operations and the Director General Chaplaincy, of Joint Operations please accept the enclosed certificate as a token of sincere appreciation for your church's support and release of your highly valued minister, the Reverends David Prior and Mark Dickens who were a members of JTF 1111 on OPERATION BUSHFIRE ASSIST 2019-20.

Please also be assured of the ongoing appreciation by the ADF of the ministry that your valued minister delivers in his ADF chaplaincy role.

Yours sincerely

CM Vesely
Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel)
Senior Chaplain

1st Division and Deployable Joint Force Headquarters
Gallipoli Barracks
ENOGGERA QLD 4051
07 3332 6075

5th June 2020

Enclosures:
Certificate of Appreciation

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

OPERATION BUSHFIRE ASSIST 2019/20
JOINT TASK FORCE 1111

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Presented to

Uniting Church of South Australia

You are commended for releasing your Australian Defence Force Reserve Chaplains for service in support of OPERATION BUSHFIRE ASSIST 2019/20.

The operation, conducted during the period from November 2019 to March 2020, required the assistance of Chaplains of the Australian Defence Force as part of a whole of Government response to enhance the operations of the police, emergency and community services in meeting the challenges of the bushfire emergency and recovery.

The Australian Defence Force and its Chaplaincy Services thank you and express appreciation for your on-going support.

Gregory Bilton AO CSC
Lieutenant General
Chief of Joint Operations
Headquarters Joint Operations Command

1 May 2020

Mark Willis
Principal Air Chaplain
Chair - ADF Chaplain Committee

1 May 2020