



JOE BUFFONE

Managing Director, Strategic Crisis Solutions

Joe is the Managing Director of Strategic Crisis Solutions Pty Ltd and former Deputy Coordinator General (Emergency Management and Response) for the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). He was with the Australian Government since December 2016, during this period he has held several positions and was the last serving Director General of Emergency Management Australia. In his role as Deputy Coordinator General, Joe was responsible for overseeing Australian Government and national Crisis Coordination for all hazards, national preparedness, designing and overseeing the running of the national situation room, national operational capability building and exercising and lessons.

Joe has more than 40 years' experience in security and disaster management and has held a number of key, senior positions. Joe is the conceptual architect for the National Coordination Mechanism (NCM) and has led more than 650 NCM's. Joe is the author of the Crisis Appreciation and Strategic Planning (CASP) doctrine and is also an accredited level 3 Incident Controller.

A key career achievement for Joe was when he deployed to Victoria to establish and lead the Victorian Aged Care Response Centre to coordinate the response to COVID outbreaks in the Aged Care sector. Joe led the centre for 3 months until the situation was stabilised and transitioned to recovery.

Previous senior executive positions held over the past 15 years, have been, Director General Emergency Management Australian, Chief Officer and of the Victorian Country Fire Authority, Deputy Emergency Management Commissioner Victoria, Deputy Chief Officer CFA, Deputy Emergency Services Commissioner, Victoria and Victorian Marine Pollution and Hazardous Material Controller.

Joe has had direct involvement in coordinating and responding to major emergencies in Australia and internationally, at the Strategic, Operational and Tactical levels. Some examples are; Repatriation from the Middle East Operations 2024 and 2021, 2022 Eastern Australia Floods, Leading the Victorian Aged Care Response Centre 2020, Black Summer Bushfire 2019-20, Far North Queensland Floods 2018-19, Cyclone Debbie 2017, Tasmanian Bushfires 2016, Wye River Bushfires 2016, Nepal Earth Quake 2015, Somerton Building Waste Fire 2015, Hazelwood Mine Fire 2014. NSW Bushfires 2014, 2011 Victorian Floods, 2009 Black Saturday Fires in Victoria. Joe has also served in the Australian Defence Force.