



**David Elliott**  
Minister for Corrections  
Minister for Emergency Services  
Minister for Veterans Affairs

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Wednesday, 11 May 2016

### **EMERGENCY SERVICE CADETS HONOURED**

Minister for Emergency Services David Elliott today congratulated the 2015 Cadet of the Year for both the NSW State Emergency Service (NSW SES) and NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS).

NSW SES cadet Rebekah Moussa, from Georges River Grammar School, and NSW RFS cadet Sophie Cox, from Hay War Memorial High School, were honoured for leadership and community service at NSW Parliament House.

Rebekah, 17, received a nomination after showing maturity, leadership, and support of her peers, as well as volunteering at Bankstown Learning Centre to assist senior citizens use their smart phones, and being a committed blood donor.

Sophie, 16, received her nomination for being an exceptional role model at her school, volunteering with community organisations, and displaying an excellent understanding of firefighting techniques and its technical language.

“It was clear from the testimonials provided by their teachers and trainers that both Rebekah and Sophie are community minded individuals who recognise the value of community participation, hard work and camaraderie,” Mr Elliott said.

NSW SES Acting Commissioner Greg Newton said the high school cadet program is an important tool in developing community spirit and an interest in volunteering among young people.

“Today we celebrate Wear Orange Wednesday (WOW Day), where we recognise the service of over 40,000 SES volunteers, and there can be no better day to celebrate Rebekah’s achievements,” Acting Commissioner Newton said.

NSW RFS Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons said the Rural Fire Service is proud to pass on the ideals of community service, dedication and teamwork to the next generation.

“It is fitting that we celebrate the achievements of these cadets, along with those who lead them during National Volunteers Week,” Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

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