

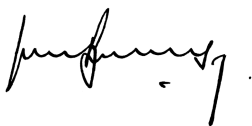
Foreword

Victoria currently faces the enormous challenge of rebuilding our community in the wake of the February 2009 bushfires.

The Bushfire Legal Help Handbook is an important resource in meeting that challenge. The Handbook is intended to help individuals affected by these events navigate their way through the diverse legal issues - from fencing disputes to family law - which have arisen as a consequence of the fires.

Individual needs are complex, but as this Handbook demonstrates, there is help available. The Handbook provides practical advice on how to cope with many of the issues arising as a consequence of the fires, and provides links to countless other useful organisations and resources. I commend all those involved in compiling this Handbook, which I am confident will be of great assistance to those engaged in the difficult and ongoing work of re-establishing their lives.

The task ahead is huge, but Victorians are a resilient and generous people. Together, we will rebuild.



John Brumby MP
Premier of Victoria