

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Thirty-one Victorians named Junior Triple Zero Heroes

A total of 31 young Victorians aged between four and 13 will be named Junior Triple Zero Heroes today by the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA), for calling triple zero.

The young heroes are nominated by the ESTA operators who took their call. The awards, which are in their fourteenth year, recognise young people for their bravery and clear thinking in emergencies.

This year's heroes include:

- four-year-old Charlotte who called triple zero when her mum fell and was unable to move. She explained what was happening to our operator and cared for her mother until paramedics arrived
- 13-year-old Trinity who was out on a drive with her mum when they ended up on the edge of a collapsing road. Trinity escaped and called triple zero as the car fell 30 metres off a cliff with her mum still inside. Trinity remained calm and provided vital details to our operator until help arrived
- five-year-old Aoife who called triple zero when her mum collapsed and then stopped breathing. Aoife performed CPR on her mum and did a great job of caring for her mum and younger sibling until help arrived.

The Minister for Emergency Services, James Merlino, said: "ESTA's triple zero operators work under pressure to help Victorians in need, responding to nearly 7000 calls a day.

"Victoria's brave Junior Triple Zero Heroes remained remarkably cool, calm and collected and are shining examples of how preparing children for an emergency can save lives."

ESTA's CEO Marty Smyth said: "Teaching your children how and when to call triple zero, including knowing your home address, really can save lives. We tell parents and carers that the life a child might save could be yours".

**ESTA provides the critical link between the Victorian community and the state's emergency services agencies. It provides Victoria's 24-hour emergency call-taking and dispatch services for police, fire, ambulance and VICSES.**

**Note:** Audio of Junior Triple Zero Heroes' calls is available for media. Photographs of the ceremony will also be available after the event.

**Electronic media note: The correct reference to 000 is 'triple zero' (not 'triple oh').**

**For more information:**

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