

## MEDIA RELEASE

27 June 2019

### Twenty-eight Victorians named Junior Triple Zero Heroes

A total of 28 young Victorians aged between three and 16 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 fifteenth year, recognise young people for their bravery and clear thinking in emergencies.

This year's heroes include:

- Five-year-old Monte and seven-year-old Casper who called triple zero when their dad collapsed and started having seizures. The brothers relayed critical health information to the call-taker and worked together to turn their dad on his side when the seizures stopped.
- 11-year-old Chamaya who called triple zero when her mother started to choke on a bone while they were eating dinner. Chamaya calmly answered the call-taker's instructions and monitored her mum's breathing until the ambulance arrived.
- 12-year-old Kade who called when his dad crashed his motorbike into a tree. Kade showed maturity beyond his years by calmly relaying his longitude and latitude to the call-taker to pinpoint their location and caring for his dad until help arrived.

The Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Lisa Neville, said: "The bravery and courage these young Victorians show during emergencies, often involving their loved ones, is truly inspirational and I congratulate them on their outstanding efforts."

"More than 2.5 million emergency calls are made to ESTA through the Triple Zero service every year, but the actions of these brave young Victorians in situations that would unsettle most adults deserves our recognition and praise."

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

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**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 from the ceremony will also be available after the event.

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

#### Event Details:

- **What:** ESTA Junior Triple Zero Hero Awards
- **When:** Thursday, 27 June.

- **Time:** 10:00am – 12noon (Please arrive at the venue at 9:45am to allow sufficient time to process through security screening).
- **Where:** Parliament House, Queen's Hall – Spring Street, East Melbourne.

**For more information:**

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