From: Bruce A Shapiro <bru>

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Sent: Wednesday, 5 June 2019 10:42 PM

To: Craig McMurtrie < McMurtrie. Craig@abc.net.au>; Gaven Morris < Morris. Gaven@abc.net.au>;

Cait McMahon <cait.mcmahon@dartaspac.org>

Subject: Press freedom / ABC

Gaven, Craig,

I am catching up with great concern on yesterday's shocking police action. It is part of an alarming worldwide erosion of press freedom.

Please know that all us at Dart stand with our friends at the ABC in this matter. If there is any way Dart can be helpful at this time of challenge and stress to ABC staff and leaders, let us know.

Also, if you think there is some useful intervention from prominent colleagues in investigative journalism outside Australia - a letter to government, or some other gesture - I'd be happy to discuss it. I am on the board of the Global Investigative Journalism Network and other professional communities which might be mobilized.

Finally on a personal note, as someone intimately connected to the ABC intimately both through Dart and as an LNL contributor, I am proud of the sober and courageous response by ABC leadership to yesterday's developments.

All best

Bruce

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Bruce Shapiro

Executive Director, Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma Senior Advisor for Academic Affairs and Adjunct Associate Professor Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism

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From: David N Anderson < Anderson. David. N@abc.net.au>

Sent: Thursday, 6 June 2019 11:53 AM

To: David N Anderson < Anderson. David. N@abc.net.au>

Subject: Update from the Managing Director

Dear Colleagues,

The AFP raid on our Ultimo office yesterday was highly unusual and deeply concerning. This is a serious development that raises legitimate concerns about freedom of the press.

We stand by our journalists, our stories and our sources. The ABC has an impeccable record for journalistic diligence, scrutiny and integrity, reporting without fear or favour on stories that are in the public interest.

Our record stands for itself, including our recent reports into the youth justice system in the Northern Territory and the failings of Australia's aged care system – both investigations triggered royal commissions.

The stories that prompted yesterday's AFP raid dealt with challenging subject matter and allegations of serious misconduct by Australia's special forces in Afghanistan. These are stories of clear public interest and importance.

That the AFP raided our office in relation to those stories sends a chilling signal to the wider community and whistle blowers, whose revelations play a crucial role in uncovering serious issues in the public interest.

I am heartened by the support of fellow media companies and organisations in Australia and overseas, including the BBC and European Broadcasting Union, who have expressed their solidarity with the ABC and the broader principle of press freedom. This story is of global importance and the ABC is always willing to work more broadly with our peers and governments to ensure the protection of journalists and journalism.

Last night, AFP officers removed about 100 electronic files from our office. These files have been sealed and police are unable to access them for two weeks, while our legal team works to determine any legal grounds to prevent the release of the material.

We will continue to vigorously defend our stories and our people. These issues go beyond the media industry. Freedom of the press is at the heart of our democracy and we must do everything we can to safeguard that freedom.

Anderson g Director, ABC

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

peoples as the First Australians and Traditional Custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work.