

**28 February 2025**

Please see below response on behalf of our client, Jorge Conde (via his lawyer):

- Mr Conde is a PhD candidate at the Australian National University and is a Cognitive Warfare and Counter Foreign Interference scientist. He is one of Australia's leading researchers in the field of national security and has lectured extensively in relation to his area of expertise.

- The questions put to Mr Conde by Linton Besser and the ABC are premised upon a series of groundless and defamatory allegations which are untrue and, if published, will cause irreparable harm to his reputation.

- Mr Conde denies any wrongdoing and/or any misrepresentation as alleged by Linton Besser and the ABC in the questions put to him.

- Mr. Conde cannot comment upon any matter or factual circumstance that may be under investigation by a security agency.