



MEDIA STATEMENT

Friday 20 May 2016

Unity Resources Group is proud of its record of service providing security for Australians working overseas in some of the most difficult and risk-prone environments in the world. We take our obligation to our clients very seriously, and it is for this reason, and the security of our own staff and our clients, that we can no longer allow untrue and unsubstantiated reports to dominate the discussion of recent events at the Australian Embassy in Baghdad.

Unity Resources Group rejects the claims made against the Company and our highly skilled team members who put their lives on the line daily to protect Australian Embassy staff.

Tragically, and regrettably, a member of the Unity Team, Chris Betts, died in an incident last week. Our sympathies are with the family, with whom we have been keeping in regular contact.

Our priorities have been to provide support to the family of Chris, preserve the scene for investigators, and importantly, to continue doing our job of providing protection services to Embassy staff at a time when there is heightened threat to the security of Baghdad.

Unity Resources Group is experienced at operating in difficult geopolitical environments, and our team members are carefully selected for their extensive experience, often in specialist military and police force roles. Some media reporting of the tragic incident at Baghdad Embassy has allowed pure speculation and second and third-hand rumour to masquerade as fact. This is unhelpful, both to Unity Resources Group team members dealing with the loss of a colleague and a mate, and his family.

Unity Resources Group condemns the opportunistic approach being taken by a very small group of people with questionable motivation in the wake of a tragic incident which is being fully and properly investigated by Australian authorities.

It is not Unity Resources Group's intention to comment further on the tragic incident, or unsubstantiated claims and rumours, at a time when what is required is co-operation with the Australian Federal Police and support for our team, including their former colleague's family.

ENDS

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