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## MEDIA RELEASE

### **\$88 MILLION IN FUNDING FOR AFP WELCOMED**

The Australian Federal Police Association (AFPA) welcomes the announcement by the Albanese Government regarding an injection of funds for the Australian Federal Police (AFP), Australian Border Force (ABF) and the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.

The AFP will receive \$88 million to establish regional response teams and investigate breaches of visa conditions after the High Court of Australia's decision to overturn indefinite immigration detention.

AFPA President Alex Caruana said this injection of funding for the AFP was critical to ensure the safety of Australia and its communities and would allow the AFP to operate without having to draw crucial funding from other operational areas of the organisation.

"I thank Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, Home Affairs Minister Clare O'Neil, Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus KC, and Treasurer Jim Chalmers, for allocating substantial funding to the lead agencies.

"This is a national security issue, and the best way forward is the establishment of Operation AEGIS. This operation will allow a multi-agency response to the issue, with expertise from the AFP and ABF coming together to ensure the lawful compliance of those people released by the High Court.

"This injection of funding, which the AFPA has been calling for, alleviates a number of our concerns, and it's pleasing to see the Government take quick action to allocate funding that will allow for dedicated resources to be put in place to protect the community.

"It is crucial this funding does not detract from the need to extend further funds to our hardworking members who have commenced critical negotiations for a new enterprise agreement. While additional funding is always welcome, the need for this has highlighted how vital our AFP police officers and staff are to the continuing protection of Australia and its communities.

There is no greater time than now to attract and retain police to the AFP to meet the growing demands of national security and ACT Policing," Mr Caruana said.

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