



Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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PREMIER CONDEMNS CENOTAPH ATTACK

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell today condemned the vandals who attacked the Martin Place Cenotaph as disrespecting the freedoms every Australian enjoys.

"Any attack on a war memorial is a low act, but to do it on the day this country lost five of our brave servicemen is even more disgusting," Mr O'Farrell said.

"Vandalism of a war memorial is an attack on the freedoms for which our Defence Force personnel have fought," he said.

"The freedoms we enjoy are as result of the men and women who have fought for this country and to attack a war memorial tramples on their proud legacy.

"I hope the person or people responsible for this senseless vandalism come to their senses and hand themselves into police.

"I also urge anyone with information about this attack to contact Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000.

"The NSW Government has strong penalties in place specifically for attacks on war memorials, including giving courts to power to impose community service orders on these grubs, while offenders can also be charged with malicious damage carrying a maximum penalty of five years.

"When these offenders are caught, I hope the judiciary throws the book at them," Mr O'Farrell said.

ENDS

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