



THE SENATE

**FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE REFERENCES COMMITTEE**

**Defence honours and awards system**

**PUBLIC HEARING  
Friday 7 February 2025**

**Committee Room 2R1  
Australian Parliament House, Canberra**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Witness</b>
9.00 am	<b>Mr Dan Fortune DSC and Bar</b>  <b>Mr Andrew White</b>  <b>Mr Jonathon Beesley</b>  <b>Mr Matthew Brennan</b>
10.00 am	<b>Mr Scott Secombe</b>
10.30 am	<b>Families of Veterans Guild (Submission 3)</b> Ms Renee Wilson, Chief Executive Officer
<b>11.00 am</b>	<b>Morning tea</b>
11.15 am	<b>via videoconference:</b> <b>Dr Paul Taucher (Submission 2)</b>
11.45 am	<b>Australian Special Forces Alliance (Submission 5)</b> Mr Martin Louis Blandy, Full Member Mr Andrew MacNaughton, Director and Welfare Officer
12.15 pm	<b>RSL Australia (Submission 7)</b> Major General (ret'd) Greg Melick, National President  <b>RSL New South Wales (Submission 6)</b> Mr David McCann, Director
12.45 pm	<b>Australian Special Air Service Association (Submission 11)</b> Mr Rick Moor, Outgoing National Vice Chairman Brig Christopher Roberts, Member
<b>1.15 pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
2.00 pm	<b>Department of Defence (Submission 8)</b> Rear Admiral Richard Boulton, Deputy Chief of Personnel  <b>Australian War Memorial (Submission 9)</b> Mr Matt Anderson PSM, Director/Agency Head Mr Brian Dawson, Assistant Director - National Collection Branch Mr Nick Fletcher, Head - Military Heraldry and Technology

Committee Chair: Senator Claire Chandler

Committee Secretary: Pothida Youhorn

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3.00 pm	<b>Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal</b> ( <i>Submission 1</i> ) Mr Stephen Skehill, Chair Mr Jay Kopplemann, Executive Officer
<b>4.30 pm</b>	<b><i>Adjournment</i></b>