

MEDIA RELEASE

30 April 2026

STATEMENT FROM YAPA ELDER ROBIN GRANITES

Robin Granites, senior Yapa (Warlpiri) elder and spokesperson for the family of Kumantjayi Little Baby, has appealed for calm across the Central Australian community.

“It is time now for sorry business, to show respect for our family and have space for grieving and remembering.

“Everyone is feeling very upset and emotions are very high, I understand that.

“What has happened this week is not our way. Our children are precious, of course we are feeling angry and hurt at what has happened.

“This man has been caught, thanks to community action, and we must now let justice take its course while we take the time to mourn Kumantjayi Little Baby and support our family.”

Mr Granites has asked people in bush communities to carefully consider their need to travel to Mparntwe/Alice Springs at this time.

“If you need to come to join sorry business, that’s fine. But just come for that, then return home please.

“Now is not the time to be heroes on social media or make trouble.

“We must be mindful Mparntwe is traditional country for Central Arrernte, and East and Western Arrernte as well. We must respect that and their ways.

“We need to be strong for each other, we must respect family and cultural practice. This is the Yapa way.”

END

Please note that SNAICC – National Voice for our Children is helping to support the family of Kumantjayi Little Baby at this time.

For all media queries, please contact Charlie Bowcock on 0417 042 308 or media@snaicc.org.au.