

## Comment on AFR Article

Atomos is disappointed that the AFR has published an article where it has chosen to misreport an employment complaint by former CEO, Estelle McGechie, as the company being involved in 'rampant illegality'. Atomos provided relevant context to the AFR ahead of publication deadline which the journalist, Michael Roddan, chose not to include in the article. Atomos has made a formal complaint to the AFR.

Atomos comments as follows:

- This is an employment law complaint. The complaint has been filed and not served. It's the board's view that Ms McGechie is making the allegations, which are not borne out by the facts, to negotiate a payment beyond her legal entitlements.
- The board considers certain allegations in the complaint highly defamatory and is assessing its legal options. However, it should be noted that privilege laws in California protect the Claimant from defamation actions. This protection can be used (particularly in litigious states such as California) for leverage on employment law matters. The board understands that circa 95% of such complaints in California are dismissed or settled.
- The board is of the view that there is no proper basis for additional payments to be made and also notes there are legal constraints in Australia limiting the company's ability to make such payments. We are very confident in our position and the legal processes - these need to play out.
- The allegations of being a whistle-blower and gender discrimination are not true:
  - For example, in terms of being a whistle-blower, Ms McGechie makes claims in her complaint of fraudulent sales reporting and that she requested an audit. A comment regarding fraud was made by Ms McGechie on the final day of her employment and after a number of discussions had been had about her employment and obligations to the company. The "evidence" of the alleged fraud that she pointed to, was from a US website, Simply Wall Street, which referred to Atomos's underlying earnings power. There was and remains no basis for such a fraud allegation. Ms McGechie also requested an audit to which she was then reminded that the company *is audited*, by a big four firm, Deloitte.
  - In terms of alleged gender discrimination, it should be noted that Ms McGechie was appointed by a board of two women and four men to the most senior position in the company. When Ms McGechie's employment ended the board consisted of two women and three men.
- Atomos provides these two examples to illustrate the context of the complaint and given that the complaint could become the subject of legal proceedings, we will comment no further at this stage.

Authorised for media release by the Atomos Board of Directors.

--ENDS--

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