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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## For immediate release

## Community Corrections Order for Sydney member of PKK Date: 7 May 2019

On 7 May 2019, the NSW Supreme Court sentenced 40 year-old Renas Lelikan to a three-year Community Corrections Order for being a member of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), which has been a proscribed terrorist organisation in Australia since 17 December 2005.

Mr Lelikan had earlier pleaded guilty to being a member of the PKK between April 2011 and August 2013.

During the period of his offending, Mr Lelikan lived in Northern Iraq and Turkey where he associated with other members of the PKK.

In sentencing, Justice McCallum found that Mr Lelikan's offence did not warrant a custodial sentence. Her Honour noted that Mr Lelikan had previously spent almost three months in custody, which had an extreme impact on him.

Mr Lelikan was arrested and charged with this offence on 20 July 2016, after he returned to Australia from Iraq.

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## **Summary of charge:**

• One count of intentionally being a member of a terrorist organisation, namely the PKK, between about 5 April 2011 and 15 August 2013, contrary to s102.3(1) of the *Criminal Code (Cth)*.

CDPP Media contact: media@cdpp.gov.au or 02 6206 5708.