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## Chargers Week 1 Media Availability

Friday, September 8, 2023 ⚡ Hoag Performance Center ⚡ Costa Mesa, Calif.

### HEAD COACH BRANDON STALEY

#### **On Dolphins T Terron Armstead's game status of 'out':**

"They're just going to go with the next guy and run their offense. That's what they did last year. They had a bunch of shifting last year on their offensive line and they'll do the same this time."

#### **On DL Austin Johnson:**

"I'm really proud of Austin [Johnson]. It was a long way back from that injury. He's just such a stud. What he put into this rehab, and to be able to be active in game one, we're just really grateful for him and the staff around him that helped get him well. He's ready to play. He wouldn't be active if we didn't think that he could play. There are probably going to be a certain amount of snaps that we have projected for him. He is definitely going to be full-speed and we're excited that he is going to be out there."

#### **On if OLB Chris Rumph II's game status of 'doubtful' for Sunday's game 'changes the team's approach':**

"it doesn't. We'll have to make a couple of adjustments on special teams, but nothing major. The next guy has to come up and play."

## **OUTSIDE LINEBACKER JOEY BOSA**

### **On Week 1:**

"I'm very excited. It's been a long camp — long, but quick. Just excited to put everything that we have been working on on display. I think that it was a great week of preparation. Feeling solid today. Had a great padded practice yesterday. Just excited to get out there."

### **On playing alongside of OLB Khalil Mack:**

"I think that it was looking really good last year, and that was on a bad groin and a bad foot of his. The more time that we get together, the better it is going to get. I think that we complement each other pretty well with our rush styles. I'm just excited to see how it develops throughout the year. Hopefully, we can start out fast."

### **On if he is 'still feeling his best':**

"I'm feeling great. I definitely have some things every now and again with the groin, still not that far out of the injury last year, but I'm feeling really good. I had a lot of chronic issues that I was dealing with for a long time that I didn't really understand, didn't know what was going on. That was all cleaned up. As I keep going, it just seems to get stronger and stronger as I play. Continue to recover well, continue to stay consistent with my training. I was able to gain a lot of weight by gaining muscle mass in my legs again, when I can finally do what I need to do in the weight room and all of that. It's been a huge positive."

### **On 'if there is a sense of urgency to win':**

"There's always a sense of urgency to win. It's always somebody's last year on the team, whether it's a coach, player or whoever it is. I think we all just want to make the most of this team that we have. I think everybody knows how talented we are. There's been a lot of talk of that over all the years that I've been here, and we've never been able to truly deliver on, I think, our potential. We're just taking it one game at a time. I think we have something special. Being together for the third year now, I think we have a good understanding of the defensive scheme. Obviously, [QB Justin] Herbert getting what he deserves and just continuing to improve every single year. Of course, there's urgency. Is it any more than it ever has been? I'm not sure about that. I think we always want to win. We're just trying to play one game at a time and end up in a good place when the season gets to the end."

### **On Dolphins T Terron Armstead being ruled 'out' for Sunday's game:**

"He's obviously a great player, been at it for a long time, but it doesn't change our preparation a lot. We're preparing the same. We might be ready for maybe a little more chips, a little more screens and different trick plays. We're going to just try to stay aggressive. I know there are going to be quick passes, which can kind of get you flustered when you're a rusher and you're winning rushes and you're getting back there and the ball is out. Just staying consistent with our rushes and, most importantly, stopping the run game, which will allow us, obviously, to rush the passer."

### **On Dolphins QB Tua Tagovailoa:**

"He is getting better every year. He has some incredible weapons, 10 and 17 [Dolphins WRs Tyreek Hill and Jaylen Waddle], obviously. Like I said, I think the big thing is stopping the run game at first. We've, obviously, had our troubles over the years with the run game. I think that's the biggest focus we have, is stopping the run game and then, hopefully, just putting a cover over Tua [Tagovailoa] down the field and getting to him."