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'Ann should have been told of Sheehy release'



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By PETULA MARTYN

THE widow of Detective Garda Jerry McCabe was not notified of the impending release of one of her husband's killers from Castlerea Prison today.

Almost 12 years after the brutal killing of Det Garda McCabe outside a post office in Adare, one of the four men convicted of his manslaughter was released.

Forty-six year old Jeremiah Sheehy was jailed for 12 years after pleading guilty to the Limerick Detective's manslaughter. The Rathkeale native walked free from Castlerea Prison this morning.

Det Garda McCabe's brother-in-law, Pat Kearney, said it was bad manners that Ann McCabe did not receive any notification from the Department of Justice to tell her Mr Sheehy was to be released today.

"In a Government full of spin doctors, no one had the common courtesy to send a letter with a simple sentence saying Sheehy will be released," he told the Limerick Leader.

"Do they want her to meet him on O'Connell Street face to face?" Mr Kearney asked.

"She should have received some notification; it is bad, bad manners from the Government. A letter would have been a simple courtesy."

Mr Sheehy is the second person involved in the killing to be released.

Michael O'Neill, who served eight years of an 11-year manslaughter sentence, was given standard remission for good behaviour last May. He was involved in preparing the gang for the raid but did not fire the fatal shots.

Pearse McAuley from Strabane, Tyrone, and Kevin Walsh from Patrickswell, are still serving sentences of 14 years each for their part in the manslaughter. They are expected to be released within the next year.

There were repeated attempts to release the men under the terms of the Good Friday Agreement which was fiercely resisted by Det Garda McCabe's widow and the Garda Representative Association.

The full article contains 309 words and appears in Limerick Leader Mon T newspaper.

Last Updated: 04 February 2008 1:54 PM

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Joe Limerick,

Limerick 04/02/2008 17:07:54

Shame on whatever Garda or Prison office leaked this information to the media. Ann Mc Cabe is right to be annoyed.

Whoever leaked this information to the media before she was informed were simply interested in stirring things up. They have obviously no interest in the feelings of the Mc Cabe family.

I thought Michael Mc Dowell made it a criminal offence for Gardai to leak information.?

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