

An Chartlann Náisiúnta
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RÚNAÍOCHT IDIR-RIALTASACH
NA BREATAINE-NA hÉIREANN
BÉAL FEIRSTE

BRITISH-IRISH
INTERGOVERNMENTAL SECRETARIAT
BELFAST

cc'd 19.12.00

COPY TO:
[redacted]
MR. FLAHIVE
MR. CALLAGHAN
MR. O'HARA

Secure Fax No: 1645

DATE : 18 December 2000

NO. OF PAGES (including this one): 2

TO : Gary Ansbro/Fiona Flood
Anglo Irish Division

FROM: Val O'Donnell

Copied directly to B Callaghan, DoJELR

SUBJECT : Sean Brown Inquest

I had an opportunity to raise the above matter with John Leckey, the Belfast Coroner over lunch to-day. I explained that we had been experiencing difficulties in obtaining information on the current status of the case through our usual channels of communication. I told him that the latest information we had received , on 5 December, was that the inquest was a matter for HM Coroner in Belfast, and that no date has been set for the inquest.

John Leckey said he was unaware of the case, which he thought might come within his jurisdiction by virtue of the location (Randalstown) where the body was found. He promised to check the case out and to call me in the afternoon.

Mr.Leckey rang me later. He told me that police papers had arrived in his office last week. He had not seen them until now. He said that he is now seeking the post-mortem report and expects that this will come to hand shortly after Christmas, at the latest. The way will then be open to hold the inquest. If the Post mortem report comes to hand before the Christmas, he may be able to set a date for the inquest and send out notice to the parties, including of course the family, before Christmas. Either way **he expects to be in a position to hold the inquest into the murder of Sean Brown, in January, 2001.**

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The family will be able to apply for a death certificate when the inquest has been completed. (The Coroner sends a form to the Registrar of Deaths following the conclusion of then Inquest).

John Leckey had no objection if the above information were provided to the family. He also told me that the family were free to write to him directly about any aspect of the inquest . His address is as follows :

John Leckey LL.M.
H.M. Coroner for Greater Belfast
Coroner's Office,
The Courthouse,
37 Church Road,
Newtownabbey,
BT36 7LA

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