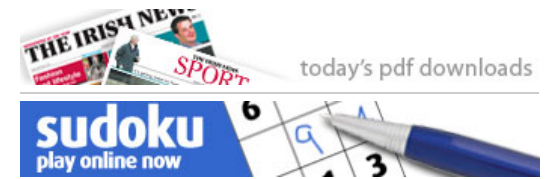


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Family to meet every political leader, except Adams

By Barry McCaffrey

10/01/08

The family of murdered south Armagh man Paul Quinn plan to hold a meeting with party political leaders from north and south, it was revealed last night.

Stephen and Briega Quinn held private talks with the Independent Monitoring Commission (IMC) yesterday before attending a public meeting in Castleblaney, Co Monaghan to discuss their campaign to bring their son's killers to justice.

Campaign group spokesman Jim McAllister last night revealed that the 21-year-old's family plan to meet with party political leaders from Northern Ireland and the Republic in the near future.

However, Mr McAllister said that the Quinn family would refuse to meet Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams unless he withdrew comments that the death had been linked to a falling-out among criminals.

"The family hopes to hold a meeting with political leaders on both sides of the border but Gerry Adams won't

be invited unless Sinn Fein retracts its statements that Paul Quinn was involved in criminality," he said.

Mr McAllister said that the justice campaign would be refocused following recent talks with senior Irish government ministers, including Taoiseach Bertie Ahern and foreign affairs minister Dermot Ahern.

"The family succeeded in having the Irish government withdraw the slur on Paul's name that he was involved in criminality and the campaign will now refocus its attentions on those who organised and carried out Paul Quinn's murder," he said.

Following last night's meeting in Castleblayney Gardai distributed leaflets appealing for the public's help, including an appeal for information about a van thought to have been used in the murder.

"We are appealing for anyone with even the slightest information, no matter how insignificant they may think it is, to come forward," the statement read.

"The gardai need the public's help if they are to succeed in bringing those who killed Paul Quinn to justice.

"We are also appealing on those who were inside that shed and saw what happened when Paul Quinn was murdered to reexamine their conscience and to come forward even at this late stage.

"We are very happy with the public and political support the campaign has received to date and plan to redouble our efforts in coming months."