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McClellan may be questioned over murder of loyalist inmate in Maze

(Allison Morris, [Irish News](#))

Stephen McClellan could be questioned by police ahead of his early release in relation to the murder of fellow loyalist David Keys in the Maze prison in 1998.

During a preliminary hearing this week ahead of an inquest into the death, Coroner John Leckey said the whereabouts of men imprisoned on the LVF wing of the jail should be traced.

Keys (26) had been on remand facing charges for his role in the sectarian murder of Poyntzpass friends Damien Trainor and Philip Allen when he was found hanging in his cell.

Named in court as the getaway driver in the 1998 murders, he had been brutally tortured before a bed sheet was tied around his neck to make his death appear as suicide.

Among the 31 LVF prisoners on the wing at the time were Poyntzpass gunmen Stephen McClellan and Noel McCready.

McClellan is due for early release after a decision by Sentence Review Commissioners, while McCready will remain behind bars in Magha-berry prison.

Mr Leckey said on Monday he would ask police to establish who was in prison with Keys at the time of the murder.

He said he was aware that some prisoners were now deceased but he wanted the whereabouts of the others, including some men who had been sent back to jail, to be established.

Mr Leckey said he hoped an inquest into the murder could take place in early December.

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