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O'Loan criticism 'deeply offensive and hurtful'

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Sinn Féin west Belfast MLA Paul Maskey has described SDLP MLA Declan O'Loan's criticism of Sunday's March for Truth to Belfast City Hall as 'deeply offensive and hurtful to the many hundreds of victims and victims families who will be participating in the march and rally'.

Mr. Maskey said:

"At the press conference launching the 'Wear a Black Ribbon Appeal' Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams acknowledged on several occasions that republicans had inflicted hurt during the conflict and expressed his sincere regret.

"Mr O'Loan's comments are on the contrary far from sincere. They are deeply offensive and hurtful to the many hundreds of victims and victims' families who will be participating in the march and rally.

"Mr. O'Loan chooses to ignore the right of these families, bereaved as a result of state killings or as a consequence of institutionalised collusion, to be told the truth by the government that was responsible for these policies.

"Instead of attacking the legitimate demand for truth Mr O'Loan should be supporting these families." ENDS

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