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Hearing adjourned

THURSDAY  
15/11/2007  
17:36:05

### Murdered man's family loose faith in gardai investigation.

Irish police have asked for a hearing into the death of Denis Donaldson to be adjourned

because they are considering criminal charges.

The former senior Sinn Fein member was found after being shot in a cottage in County Donegal last April.

He admitted in December 2005 he had become a paid British agent in the 1980s.

Mr Donaldson's family have said their confidence in the gardai investigation has been "severely undermined" over the last year and a half.

It is understood they have concerns about whether or not Mr Donaldson was informed about any perceived threats to his life.

They are also concerned about whether his cottage was under electronic surveillance by gardai or British security services.

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Superintendent Eugene McGovern told the coroner`s court in Letterkenny Mr Donaldson died in a violent fashion in suspicious circumstances.

He said that the death was the subject of an ongoing comprehensive and extensive garda investigation.

He requested an adjournment of the inquest on the basis that criminal proceedings are being considered.

Solicitors representing Mr Donaldson`s family said they had received a letter from the gardai this month indicating that his death was still the subject of a criminal investigation.

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