



Belfast man's death to be raised at Capitol Hill

(Marie Louise McCrory, [Irish News](#))

The death of an American-born Belfast man, six months after he alleged he was assaulted by the RUC, is to be raised at Capitol Hill in Washington DC.

John Hemsworth (40) was born in New Jersey in the US but after a few years his family moved back to Northern Ireland.

He died in Belfast of a stroke in January 1998, six months after lodging a complaint against the RUC in which he claimed he had been beaten by officers during the 1997 Drumcree standoff.

Although a postmortem was carried out, it is understood no causal link was found between the death and the alleged attack. The death was registered without an inquest.

Fr Sean McManus, president of the Capitol Hill-based Irish National Caucus, said he would raise the case in the new Congress when it convenes in early January.

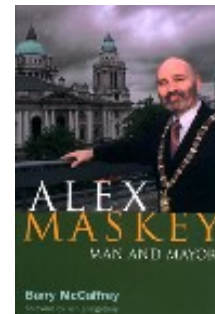
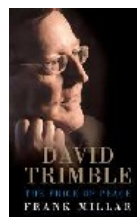
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