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## Marshall death hearing

By Claire Simpson

26/01/08

THE Police Ombudsman may be asked to investigate claims of collusion in the shooting murder of a Sinn Fein member in 1990.

At a preliminary inquest into the death of Samuel James Marshall at Belfast Coroner's Court yesterday coroner John Leckey said he had no power to investigate alleged collusion and asked why Mr Marshall's family had not lodged a complaint with the Police Ombudsman's Office.

Mr Leckey questioned the need for an inquest, saying that given a man had been convicted in 1992 of aiding and abetting in the murder, "every conceivable issue must have been dealt with during the trial".

Mark Mulholland, for the family, said the issue of police collusion needed to be addressed.

After a short adjournment, Mr Mulholland told the court the PSNI Historical Enquiries Team was investigating the murder but he could not confirm if the team would investigate any collusion.

After the hearing Mr Marshall's brother John said: "Maybe we will make a complaint to the Police Ombudsman if that is the line to go down."

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