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**News**

**Explosive revelations must spark inquiry: McCord**

Sunday, August 05, 2007

By Stephen Breen

Victims campaigner Raymond McCord last night praised former police officer Laurence Templeton for breaking rank over the issue of collusion.

The crusading father claimed Mr Templeton's shock claims had vindicated his decision to pursue the Special Branch officers who protected his son's killers.

Said Mr McCord: "This is the third set of important revelations to emerge after my son's murder.

"The first was my own investigation establishing the identity of his killers.

"The second was the O'Loan report (which concluded that Special Branch officers had protected informers in the UVF, despite their involvement in murders and serious crime).

"And now this former officer has come forward.

"What more does the Public Prosecution Service need? It is also time for the likes of Jeffrey Donaldson and the Police Federation to accept the fact there were corrupt police officers who were complicit in murders.

"Following these revelations, there must now be a full and independent inquiry into my son's murder and the activity of Mark Haddock (the most senior Mount Vernon UVF informer) and Special Branch."

McCord plans to raise the issue with the Assembly "because it affects victims from both sides of the political divide, and also security force personnel who were murdered so agents could be protected".

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