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### News

## Tragic family step up fight for justice

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Sunday, December 16, 2007

The devastated father of a young man who was battered to death last night vowed to continue his campaign for justice in 2008.

Stephen Quinn, from Cullyhanna, whose son Paul was murdered by a gang in October, issued the plea after it emerged he is to meet with Irish Foreign Minister Dermot Ahern tomorrow.

Mr Quinn, who has accused IRA members of killing his son, will discuss the police inquiry into his 21-year-old son's case.

He will also discuss his fears over a smear campaign being waged against his family in south Armagh.

Said Mr Quinn: "We are trying to get Paul's name cleared and make sure the people who did this are put before the courts and put behind bars.

"We are hoping to show the minister that Paul had no involvement in any form of criminality and wasn't a criminal himself.

"These allegations about my son are extremely hurtful and we are eager to set the record straight.

"We will discuss the background to the murder with the minister and why we believe he was murdered by the IRA."

Sunday Life can reveal that the Garda Commissioner has agreed to meet a delegation from the DUP to discuss the murder of Paul Quinn.

Fachtna Murphy will meet the DUP delegation shortly after Christmas to give the party a briefing on the investigation into the killing in a farm outhouse at Drumnacrib near Castleblayney.

DUP policing spokesman Jeffrey Donaldson said yesterday that the meeting was part of a series of meetings designed to brief the DUP on the extent of IRA involvement in the sadistic killing.

The Quinn family will be accompanied at their meeting with Mr Ahern by SDLP MLA Dominic Bradley.

The SDLP also rejected claims by Sinn Fein that the party was using the murder for "electoral advantage".

Sinn Fein has denied the IRA was involved and suggested the brutal killing was linked to a row over fuel smuggling. But Mr Quinn rejected the claims and believes his son was murdered because of his personal feud with a senior Provo in the area.

More than 300 people attended a public meeting in Crossmaglen last Thursday in support of the family's fight for justice.

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