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## MAGINNESS: OBAMA POSITION ON FINUCANE WELCOME

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SDLP Justice Spokesperson Alban Maginness welcomed the position taken by US Presidential candidate Barack Obama in support of an independent inquiry into the killing of Pat Finucane.

He said: “Senator Obama’s explicit backing for an independent public inquiry as recommended by Judge Cory is an important step forward and I hope that Gordon Brown has taken note.

“We have had nearly 20 years of British government duplicity in this case and it is time for the truth. The whole case revolves around security force involvement. We thought we had broken free of the dead hand of collusion with the appointment of Judge Cory and the commitment made by Tony

Blair at Weston Park to accept and act upon his recommendations. Unfortunately, the British government reneged and openly signalled their intention of limiting any inquiry which impinged on their security forces, as it is bound to. Such an inquiry is unacceptable to the family, unacceptable to the SDLP and stands a high chance of being unacceptable to the next US administration. There must be no hiding place within the state for murderers and those who colluded with them.”

ENDS

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