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Attorney general asked to order fresh inquest into killing by SAS

([Irish News](#))

The attorney general has been asked to order a fresh inquest into the SAS killing of a Derry man more than 20 years ago, the High Court heard yesterday (Monday).

Danny Doherty (23) was shot in the grounds of Gransha Hospital in 1984.

His widow Julie and the next of kin of two other men shot dead in the 1980s applied for orders to compel the chief constable to provide the Coroners Service with documents withheld at the original inquests.

The other victims were Francis Bradley (20), shot by the SAS near Toomebridge in 1986, and Gerard Casey (29), murdered by the UFF in his Rasharkin home in 1989.

The court action followed a recent ruling in the House of Lords that the police are obliged to give a coroner all the documentation in their possession.

Barry Macdonald QC said that in all three cases the police had filed affidavits listing the documents that had been withheld from coroners.

He said the documents included lists of suspects, statements by civilian witnesses, intelligence papers and information about the weapons used.

"These were all material documents which throw new light on the killings," Mr Macdonald said.

"They would never have come to light but for these applications for judicial review."

Barrister David McMillan, for the chief constable, said it would be a pointless exercise in supplying the documents because the inquests had already been held and findings made.

Mr Macdonald said an application had already been made for a new inquest into Mr Doherty's death.

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He said the attorney general had postponed making a decision until the outcome of the court case.

Mr Justice Weatherup reserved judgment. He said he wished to consider the matter as his ruling would have implications for many other inquests.

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