

## PRESS RELEASE

## IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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The Court of Appeal have ruled this morning that the treatment endured by the hooded men is torture, and an effective criminal investigation is necessary.

Darragh Mackin, Solicitor instructed on behalf of Francis McGuigan spoke outside the Court and said:

*“Today is a significant as the Court firmly said that the rule of law is undermined if protection provided extends to protecting Ministers from investigation in respect of criminal offences committed by them”*

*“It is now essential that an effective and independent investigation is commissioned without any further delay.”*

Francis McGuigan, the applicant, said

*“Today’s Judgment makes it expressly clear that the treatment that I suffered at the hands of Ministers was torture and should be investigated by an independent police force.”*

*“This treatment cannot be forgotten, it has had lasting and terrible effects on my mental health to this day and I can only hope that this judgment will assist someone somewhere in the world that suffers torture at the hand of their Government”*

The Court said at Para 116 of the Judgment that they were satisfied that *“the treatment to which Mr mcGuigan and Mr McKenna were subject would if it occurred today properly be characterised as torture.”*

## EDITORS NOTES

For Further comment contact Darragh Mackin Solicitor for Applicant and other hooded men 07704034143 [darragh@phoenix-law.org](mailto:darragh@phoenix-law.org)