

## Conflict-related inquest records at PRONI

PRONI has the inquest records of over 3,000 people who died in the conflict. However, we do not have the records of all the inquests held during that period.

### How can I find out if PRONI has the inquest record of a particular person?

To find out if PRONI has the inquest record you are seeking, you can search PRONI's catalogue on **www.proni.gov.uk** by inserting the person's name and the word "inquest".

You can also email or write to PRONI to ask if we have the inquest record. Please tell us the person's full name. It is helpful if you also tell us the date the person died, their last address or the date of their inquest.

We will reply to let you know we have received your email or letter and whether we have the record you are looking for.

Alternatively, you are welcome to come to PRONI where we will be pleased to help you with your search.

### How can I get a copy of a conflict related inquest report?

To ask for a copy of an inquest record, you must email or write to PRONI telling us the person's full name.

If you have traced the person's inquest record on the PRONI catalogue, please tell us the PRONI Reference Number. Otherwise, it is helpful if you tell us the date of the person's inquest, the date on which they died or their last address.

We will reply to let you know that we have received your email or letter. We will then update you at key stages of the process.

**If you apply for an inquest record under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the version of the record which is given to you will also be available in PRONI for other people to see.**

### Will I receive everything which is in the inquest record?

PRONI will give you as much of the record as it can.

However, there is often information in inquest records which cannot be released to the public under the **Freedom of Information Act 2000**. This includes, for example personal information about other people, like people who helped at the scene or people who saw what happened. To protect their privacy, information which could identify them will be blanked out of the copy of the record that we give to you.

Some inquest records contain details and images which could be particularly distressing. These will be blanked out.

In line with the **Freedom of Information Act 2000**, PRONI consults the Department of Justice and the Northern Ireland Office about the information which may be released.

The final decision is made by the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure who is the Minister responsible for PRONI and identified in law as the Keeper of the Records.

## How long will it take to get a copy of the inquest record?

The process of reviewing and consulting on the files is painstaking and time consuming. For everyone's sake, it is crucial that the right decisions are made.

This means it may take some months for PRONI to give you a copy of a conflict related inquest record that you requested.

## How will PRONI arrange for me to get a copy of the file?

We will arrange with you a time at which it is convenient for you to come to PRONI to collect the inquest records.

If you are unable to travel to PRONI we will agree other arrangements with you.

We must be sure that we are giving the file to the right person, so when we meet you we will ask to see photo ID. We will also ask you to sign for the file.

## What if I am unhappy with the decisions which have been made?

If you are unhappy with the decision to withhold information, you may write or email PRONI to ask for an internal review.

If you are unhappy with the outcome of PRONI's internal review you may ask the Information Commissioner to carry out an independent review:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Email: [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

0303 123 1113 (local rate)

PRONI  
Public Record Office of Northern Ireland  
2 Titanic Boulevard  
Belfast  
BT3 9HQ

Email: [proni@dcalni.gov.uk](mailto:proni@dcalni.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.proni.gov.uk](http://www.proni.gov.uk)  
Tel: (+44) 028 90 534800



Department of  
**Culture, Arts  
and Leisure**

[www.dcalni.gov.uk](http://www.dcalni.gov.uk)

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MAKING A REQUEST UNDER THE  
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
ACT 2000

PRONI

