



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Statement from the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. on the Decision by the Government in Northern Ireland to Not Order a Public Inquiry into the 1989 Murder of Pat Finucane**

ALBANY, NEW YORK – December 1, 2020 – Below is a statement by the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH) Inc., the largest Irish Catholic women's organization in the world, on the decision by the Northern Ireland government to not initiate a public inquiry into British security force collusion in the murder of Pat Finucane.

“The decision announced by Northern Ireland Secretary Brandon Lewis that there will not be a public inquiry into the murder of Pat Finucane is a slap in the face and an insult to Mr. Finucane's family and to his memory. The Finucane family have been denied their human rights entitled to all European Union citizens. The decision by Secretary of State Brandon Lewis to deny the Finucane Family this inquiry demonstrates that basic human rights continue to be denied to people living in the UK, particularly when state collusion is involved. This is a travesty and a mockery of justice for all seeking the truth. The Finucane family deserve a full, public, judicial inquiry immediately. Geraldine Finucane and her children have spent the last 31 years actively working to uncover the truth behind the murder of their beloved husband and father. The fact that they now have to wait even longer is not acceptable,” said Karen Keane, President of the LAOH.

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**About the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH) Inc.**

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH) Inc. is a 501(c) 3 charity. The LAOH membership is confined exclusively to practicing Roman Catholics, and Irish by birth or descent, legally adopted, the wife or mother of a Hibernian, the mother of a Junior Hibernian or a member of a religious order. The intent and purpose of the LAOH is to promote friendship, unity and Christian charity, to foster and sustain loyalty to the Roman Catholic Church and to the United

States of America among its members, to aid and advance by all legitimate means the aspirations and endeavors of the Irish people for complete and absolute independence, and to foster the ideals and perpetuate the history and traditions of the Irish people and to promote Irish culture.