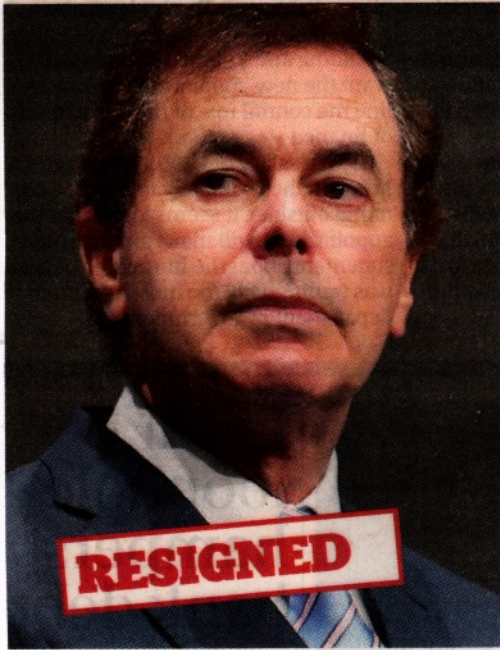


A week in justice . . .



**RESIGNED**



**UNDER PRESSURE**



**FRESH ALLEGATIONS**

# Revealed: shocking new garda claims passed to Fitzgerald

**SEE PAGES 8-11:** four-page special on the Shatter resignation and the Garda controversy

BY SUSAN MITCHELL

The Taoiseach has passed wide-ranging allegations of garda misconduct to the Department of Justice, which is now headed by Frances Fitzgerald in the wake of Alan Shatter's resignation last Wednesday.

The allegations, some of which were already the subject of legal actions and previous complaints to GSOC, were contained in affidavits and other documentation given to Taoiseach Enda Kenny last month. Details of several are revealed in today's *Sunday Business Post*.

A spokesman for the Taoi-

seach confirmed the affidavits were marked for Fitzgerald's attention, but said: "Given they arrived into his office, the Taoiseach will be following up in due course."

Some 27 sworn affidavits were passed to the Taoiseach by Justice 4 All, a group that evolved after the TDs involved exposed the practice of gardai routinely quashing fixed charge penalty points.

The *Sunday Business Post* has examined extensive additional documentation from a number of the people who signed sworn affidavits to former justice minister Alan Shatter and Taoiseach Enda Kenny making serious allegations about Garda malpractice and corruption. Many also spoke with this newspaper.

They include:

- A psychiatric nurse who claims he witnessed the death of a patient in Garda handcuffs, and who says he was subjected to ongoing harassment by Gardai after he went public with his claim.

- A doctor who claims that many of his patients were brutalised while in Garda custody and that his refusal to remain silent about this has led to Garda intimidation. He has been invited to give evidence to the joint Oireachtas committee on justice this Wednesday.

- A teacher who claims false allegations related to child protection concerns were made by Gardai in an effort to discredit him.

Independent TD Luke 'Ming' Flanagan, who is also involved in Justice 4 All, said there was little evidence to suggest that the Government is serious about tackling Garda misconduct.

Justice for All also includes Dáil deputies Mick Wallace, Clare Daly and Joan Collins. Flanagan said the group was receiving new documentation relating to alleged garda corruption and malpractice on a continuous basis.

"We have become the default GSOC office," Flanagan said.

Fitzgerald said last week that there was a "crisis of confidence" among the public in relation to the Garda Síochána that had to be dealt with and changed.

"Clearly, what we need as well is a new era, a new culture, so that the Irish people can have confidence in our policing system [and] con-

**New garda claims passed to Fitzgerald**

fidence in our police," she said.

Fitzgerald made her comments after the Guerin Report on a dossier of claims handed in by Maurice McCabe was published last week. Barrister Sean Guerin concluded that the gardai and Shatter failed in their duties to properly investigate concerns raised by McCabe.

In his 300-page report,

Sean Guerin SC called for a statutory inquiry to examine the force.

The report said a comprehensive commission of investigation was "desirable in the public interest" to ensure "continuing confidence in the institution of An Garda Síochána and the criminal justice system".

See pages 8 and 9