

For immediate release 9 March 2006

**DEATH OF BLACK PRISONER WESLEY MCGOLDRICK AT HMP
BRIXTON- INQUEST TO BEGIN**

HM Coroner John Sampson, sitting at:
HM Coroner's Court for Inner South District Greater London
1 Tennis Street
London
SE1 1YD
10am Monday 13 March 2006

The inquest into the death of Wesley McGoldrick, a 24 year old man who was found hanged in HMP Brixton on the 19 April 2005 will start on Monday 13 March at 10am and is expected to last for five days.

Wesley McGoldrick died less than 24 hours after being remanded into the care of HMP Brixton. Prior to remand and while in police custody, concerns were raised about Wesley's mental health and he was seen on a number of occasions by a police doctor.

Wesley arrived at HMP Brixton on the evening of 18 April and was screened by healthcare staff. Despite admitting to having previously self harmed Wesley was deemed not to be a suicide risk. At around 13.55 the next day Wesley was discovered hanging by a bedsheet from the bars of his cell window. At the time of his death he was alone in a shared cell with no support plan in place.

The family hope the inquest will explore the following central themes:

- Whether proper weight was given to concerns about Wesley's health whilst at the police station and whether those concerns were communicated to the prison
- Whether healthcare screening on arrival at HMP Brixton was properly carried out and whether staff were properly qualified to assess Wesley
- Whether more should have been done to identify the risk of self-harm posed by Wesley
- What measures HMP Brixton implemented to prevent further fatalities following previous deaths at the prison.

The McGoldrick family will be represented at the inquest by INQUEST Lawyers Group membersCarolynn Gallwey (Bhatt Murphy Solicitors) and barrister Alison Macdonald (Matrix Chambers)

Notes to editors:

NQUEST is the only non-governmental organisation in England and Wales that works directly with the families of those who die in custody. It provides an independent free legal and advice service to bereaved people on inquest procedures and their rights in the coroner's courts.

Self-inflicted deaths in HMP Brixton 2000 – Present

Name	DateOfDeath	Ethnicity	Age	Remand?	Cause	Classification
Wesley McGoldrick	19/04/05	Black Caribbean	24	Remanded	Hanging	Self-Inflicted
Shah Rahman	28/09/04	Asian	23	Convicted	Hanging	Self-Inflicted
Abidemi Folarin	25/03/04	Black African	35	Convicted	Hanging	Self-Inflicted
Andrew McLeggan	28/12/03	UK White	31	Remanded	Hanging	Self-Inflicted
Terry Doyle	12/05/02	Irish White	29	Convicted	Hanging	Self-Inflicted
Patrick Maloney	23/03/02	Irish White	31	Convicted	Hanging	Self-Inflicted
Michael Barry	30/03/01	Irish White	31	Convicted	Hanging	Self-Inflicted
Kevin Sheridan	07/02/01	Irish White	41	Remanded	Hanging	Self-Inflicted
Derek Fegan	17/10/00	Irish White	37	Remanded	Hanging	Self-Inflicted
James O'Pray	24/07/00	UK White	33	Convicted	Unknown	Self-Inflicted

CONTACTS:

Further Information	www.inquest.org.uk
Inquest details	Monday 13 March 2006; 10am, Southwark Coroner's Court
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