



## Garda review urged in gun victim case

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Security and Crime Editor

The family of a man who has been in a permanent vegetative state for nearly 10 years after being shot in the head has called for a Garda cold case review.

They hope people who were afraid to help gardai at the time will feel able to do so now because the suspects have lost their republican connections.

Postman Robert Delaney was 27 when he was shot at his home in Tallaght in west Dub-

lin in October 2008.

The father of two, who had no involvement in crime, was targeted after he intervened to save a man being beaten outside a Dublin pub two months earlier.

The men suspected of organising and paying for the shooting had strong links with the IRA and dissident republicans. However, they have been shunned by the republican movement since the attack on Delaney.

The injured man's parents,

Terry and Noeleen Delaney, believe a Garda cold case review might turn up crucial information which was not forthcoming at the time because people were afraid of the suspects.

### Paramilitary support

"[The suspects] went to Belfast and they were told to leave and not come back," Mr Delaney snr told *The Irish Times*. "And now there is not the same fear around them."

Nobody was ever charged in connection with the attack.

However, nearly 10 years later, Mr Delaney believes "the fear – or even status as some would see it – that the suspects had over people is gone".

Delaney, whose daughters Katie and Megan were aged two and seven when he was shot, is a patient in the brain injury unit in Peamount Hospital in west Co Dublin. He does not need a life-support machine but he has no brain function and no prospect of recovery.

"He's in a bed and you'd just think he was asleep if you saw

him. He could live for at least 20 more years," said his father.

The gunman who shot him, Daniel Gaynor from Dublin, carried out shootings for money. Gardai believe he was paid €10,000 to shoot Delaney.

Gaynor was shot dead in Finglas, north Dublin, in August 2010. A number of gangs co-operated to kill him as he had been a Real IRA killer.

➔ 'For years I was scared they'd come back':  
Weekend Review