

**TRIBUNAL OF INQUIRY INTO ISSUES RELATING TO THE COMPLAINTS PROCESS IN  
THE DEFENCE FORCES AND THE CULTURE SURROUNDING THE MAKING OF  
COMPLAINTS**

**FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY DÁIL ÉIREANN AND SEANAD ÉIREANN**



**ESTABLISHED BY INSTRUMENT MADE BY THE TÁINAISTE AND MINISTER FOR  
DEFENCE UNDER THE TRIBUNALS OF INQUIRY (EVIDENCE) ACTS 1921 TO 2011,  
ON 20 JUNE 2024**

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**ORDER RESTRICTING THE REPORTING OF INFORMATION LIKELY TO LEAD TO THE  
IDENTIFICATION OF A PERSON AGAINST WHOM AN ALLEGATION OF ABUSE HAS  
BEEN MADE**

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**UPON ESTABLISHMENT** by Instrument dated the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 2024 (S.I. 304 of 2024) of a Tribunal of Inquiry into Issues Relating to the Complaints Processes in the Defence Forces in respect of Complaints of Abuse and Complaints of Hazardous Chemicals and to the Culture Surrounding the Making of Complaints of Abuse (hereinafter '**the Tribunal**') charged with investigating the matters provided for in its Terms of Reference from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 1983 to the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 2024; and

**WHEREAS** the Oireachtas has determined that the matters which the Tribunal has been charged with investigating are definite matters of urgent public importance; and

**WHEREAS** the Tribunal has received information from several witnesses whose evidence to the Tribunal includes allegations of Abuse (as defined in the Tribunal's Terms of Reference) allegedly suffered whilst serving as members of the Defence Forces; and

**WHEREAS** the Tribunal considers that the evidence of such witnesses as are called to testify before the Tribunal is necessary for and relevant to its consideration of the matters that are set out in the Tribunal's Terms of Reference (i) to (v) inclusive; and

**NOTING THAT THE TRIBUNAL** in the context of its investigation into Terms of Reference (i) to (v), may permit evidence of Abuse and the consequences of Abuse to be led, but is precluded from investigating into, or making findings of fact upon any matters that would, if established in a court of law, be criminal in nature; and

**FURTHER NOTING** the Tribunal's obligation to ensure that constitutional justice and fair procedures are observed in all proceedings before the Tribunal; and

**BEARING IN MIND** that section 1(1) of the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Acts 1921-2011 vests in the Tribunal all powers, rights, and privileges as are vested in the High Court in respect of certain matters including the examination of witnesses; and

**RECALLING** that pursuant to Section 4 of the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) (Amendment) Act 1979 the Tribunal may make such orders as it considers necessary for the purposes of its functions; and

**THE TRIBUNAL BEING SATISFIED** that it is both necessary and proportionate for it to make this Order;

**HEREBY ORDERS** that no report of the proceedings of the Tribunal held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2026 containing material or information likely to lead members of the public to identify a person as an alleged perpetrator of abuse, or likely to lead members of the public to identify a person as a person against whom a complaint of abuse has been made, shall be published in a written publication available to the public or be broadcast in any format by members of the media or media organisations or by any other person or persons.

This Order is made without prejudice to the powers conferred upon the Tribunal by section 2(2)(a) of the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Acts 1921-2011.

Signed:   
**Lynn Heavey**  
**Tribunal Registrar**

Date of Perfection: 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2026