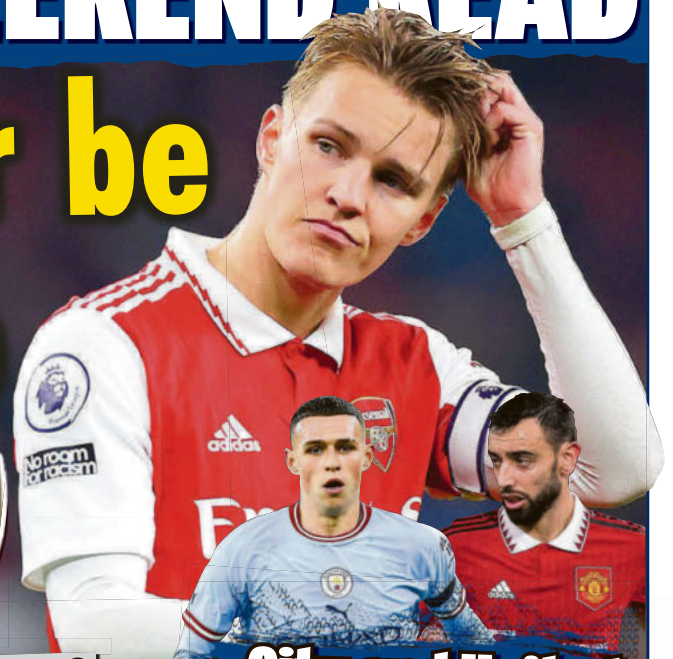


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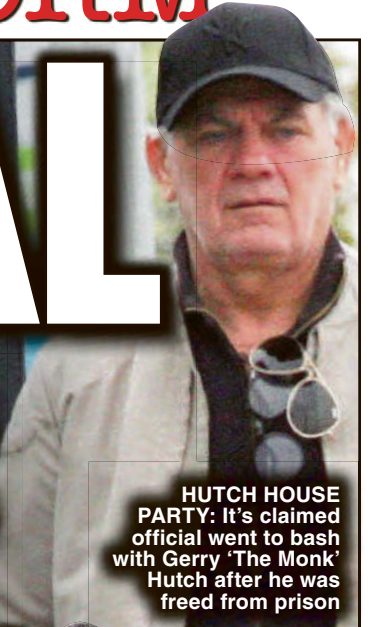
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GARDA OMBUDSMAN STORM

GSOC OFFICIAL 'PARTIED WITH MONK'

Officer resigns
after 'welcome
home' shindig



HUTCH HOUSE PARTY: It's claimed official went to bash with Gerry 'The Monk' Hutch after he was freed from prison

EXCLUSIVE
■ Paul HEALY
Chief Reporter
A GARDA Ombudsman (GSOC) officer has resigned after allegedly attending a party with Gerry 'The Monk' Hutch after his trial.
■ SEE PAGES 4&5

FAT FREDDIE BACK ON STREETS



SEE PAGE SIX

CLEARED CRIMINAL EXPECTED TO FLEE THE COUNTRY SOON



BLASTED: David Byrne who was shot dead at the Regency (right) in 2016

GERRY SET TO AVOID FRESH REGENCY RAP

GERRY 'The Monk' Hutch may never face fresh charges in connection with the Regency murder of David Byrne, senior sources believe.

But other arrests following the 2016 gangland killing are imminent.

Hutch (60) walked free from the Special Criminal Court on Monday after he was acquitted of murdering the 34-year-old Kinahan cartel lieutenant.

Now a number of senior gardai are said to be concerned that Hutch faced a murder charge only. One told *The Star*: "He should have faced firearms charges at least. There was enough on those tapes in the jeep to bring a charge."

Gardai from the Dublin Metropolitan Region are continuing with the probe into Hutch over allegations he directed an organised crime gang, while detectives from the National Bureau of Criminal Investigation are probing Hutch's alleged connection to jailed former garda John Murphy.

Warrant

Officers are examining if Hutch received a Garda tip-off in 2021 that a European Arrest Warrant had been issued for him.

Last night senior security sources said the possibility of Hutch facing fresh charges was slim.

One explained: "A decision was taken to charge Hutch with the murder of Byrne. Not anything else."

"And it backfired. Unless there is an arsenal of new evidence, the case against Hutch is dead in the water. If new evidence comes to light, then fair enough."

"But a decision was made to bring the murder charge only."

"The issue is Jonathan Dowdall appeared to be front and centre after charges were preferred. If there was no Dowdall, how was Hutch ever going to be convicted?"

Sources said new charges after the court found that Hutch had the

John HAND

AK47s after the Byrne murder are unlikely.

One said: "He could claim he couldn't get a fair trial because of everything that has come out in this trial and all the exposure in the media."

"Plus with Hutch about to head off again, gardai would have to apply to whatever foreign country he is in to extradite him back."

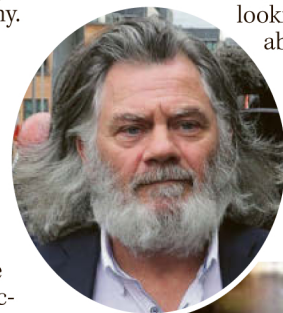
"Can you imagine having to ask the Spanish again? They'd probably tell the guards where to go. The Spanish went all out before to get him and sent him back."

"No, unless a load of new evidence shows up, Gerry is a free man. He just has to watch out for the Kinahans, though."

"The only good thing is the Kinahan gang has been decimated by the gardai here, with most of the Irish-based gang behind bars."

"But Gerry will have to keep looking over his shoulder abroad."

One source added: "Convicting Hutch of murder hung on the court believing Dowdall. Dowdall was a big gamble. And it failed spectacularly."



VERDICT: Gunman at Regency and (inset) Hutch walks free after trial

Officer in GSOC quits over claim he was at house party for Monk

AN investigator with the Garda Ombudsman Commission (GSOC) has resigned – amid claims he attended a house party with Gerry Hutch on Monday.



EXCLUSIVE

Paul HEALY
Chief Reporter

This paper has exclusively learned that an officer with GSOC is under investigation over claims he attended a gathering at a house for Hutch (60) following his sensational 'not guilty' verdict for the murder of David Byrne.

The officer, who sources say was part of the investigation into the death of Detective Superintendent Colm Fox, resigned during the week after being confronted about the allegation.

Det Supt Fox, who was the lead investigator into the murder of David Byrne at Dublin's Regency Hotel, died in a horrific tragedy in Ballymun Garda Station in 2019.

And sources say a party was held on Monday to celebrate Hutch's release from prison after the three judges of the Special Criminal Court found him not guilty of the murder at the Regency Hotel in Dublin on February 5, 2016.

The party is alleged to have occurred at a property in Dublin and involved close friends and family members of Hutch, who had spent the past year and a half in Wheatfield Prison.

The officer, who has worked with GSOC for many years, is alleged to have attended this party – in what has been viewed as a massive conflict of interest.

Matters

Sources say the officer was even searched and had their official phone taken from them during the week as GSOC launched a probe.

Gardai are also understood to have been made aware of the claims and this paper contacted them for comment.

Last night, GSOC issued a new statement to *The Star* confirming an internal probe into the matter. "GSOC became aware in recent

days of a potential conflict of interest involving a staff member," they said.

"GSOC immediately commenced an internal investigation into the matter. The officer concerned has now submitted their resignation and GSOC's investigation is ongoing. "GSOC has no further comment at this time."

It comes after Hutch walked out the main doors of the Central Criminal Courts in Dublin on Monday as a free man.

In spite of the threat to his life and his high profile, The Monk has remained in Ireland for now.

And after dramatic pictures and video of him emerging from the courts in Dublin with a lengthy beard and long hair on Monday, Hutch has now shaved off both.

He now sports a freshly clean-shaven face and a short haircut, and was again snapped on the streets of the capital yesterday.

Pals of The Monk had claimed that he did indeed intend to stay in Dublin for a few days to celebrate his 60th birthday and his release before jetting off to the sun.

FAMILY CELEBRATION AFTER HUTCH ACQUITTAL

INVESTIGATOR PROBED ON 'CONFLICT OF INTEREST'

Hutch was dramatically flown back to Ireland on the foot of a European Arrest Warrant on September 27, 2021.

He was driven by armed guard to the Special Criminal Court, where he was formally charged with the murder of Byrne.

A lengthy process ensued in which Hutch challenged his case going before the non-jury court.

He lost those battles and eventually his trial commenced in October 2022, lasting a total of 13 weeks.

The State alleged that Hutch was "one of the two" gunmen disguised as gardai and wield-

ing AK47 rifles that entered the Regency Hotel and shot and killed Kinahan cartel associate Byrne (33) in the foyer at 2:33pm on February 5, 2016.

Tapes

The evidence was based off secretly recorded tapes of Hutch speaking to former Sinn Fein councillor Jonathan Dowdall as the pair travelled up north.

In her judgement Ms Justice Tara Burns said the tapes uncovered that Hutch potentially was "in control" and in possession of the AK47 rifles – but no evidence showed this was

at the time of the event or even immediately before.

But she said no evidence existed on the tapes which proved the State's case that Hutch was specifically present at the Regency on February 5, or that he was one of the shooters.

The evidence of Dowdall, who claimed Hutch confessed to him in a park in Whitehall in Dublin, was also dismissed.

The convicted torturer turned State witness was considered to be an extremely difficult and untrustworthy witness.

The Hutch-Kinahan feud erupted when the Monk's

nephew Gary was murdered by the Kinahans in Spain in September 2015.

They then tried to murder Gerry in Lanzarote but a hit team showed up too late. Mob boss Daniel Kinahan was said to be the primary target in the Regency hit.

Government is willing to let them stand trial in America.



FREEDOM: Gerry 'the Monk' Hutch out and about in Dublin yesterday and (below) GSOC headquarters



DRUG DEBTS: Cartel members are out of cash

KINAHAN LAGS ASK FOR JAIL SAFETY

John KIERANS

A NUMBER of Kinahan cartel members have been put into protective custody in prison at their own request.

It is understood they no longer have the cash to pay for their drug debts as the Kinahan cash machine dries up.

A prison source said: "These guys were getting a couple of hundred of euro a month from the Kinahan cartel to pay for their drugs behind bars."

"They have now stopped receiving any cash as the Gardai, the American Drug Enforcement Agency and the Spanish authorities turn the screw on the whole Kinahan crime organisation."

"The Kinahans are a spent force and no longer carry the power and the money that they had in this country."

"Some of these gang members have run up drug debts inside jail and haven't got the money to pay for it."

"A number have asked the prison authorities to protect them because they are worried about their safety and fear they will be attacked by other gangs if they don't pay up."

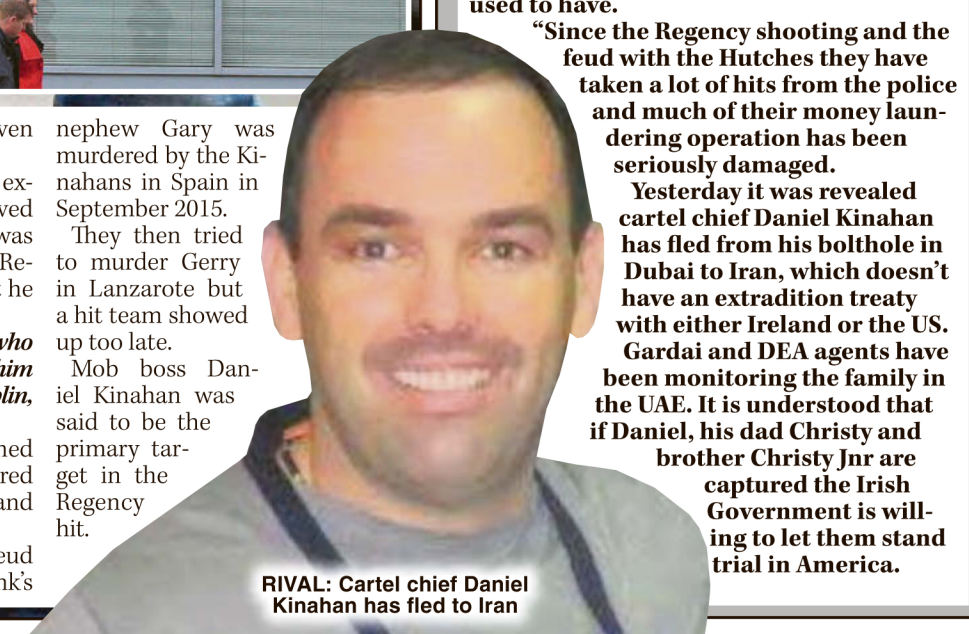
Hits

The source added: "The Kinahan gang do not have the organisation here that they used to have."

"Since the Regency shooting and the feud with the Hutches they have taken a lot of hits from the police and much of their money laundering operation has been seriously damaged."

Yesterday it was revealed cartel chief Daniel Kinahan has fled from his bolthole in Dubai to Iran, which doesn't have an extradition treaty with either Ireland or the US.

Gardai and DEA agents have been monitoring the family in the UAE. It is understood that if Daniel, his dad Christy and brother Christy Jnr are captured the Irish Government is willing to let them stand trial in America.



RIVAL: Cartel chief Daniel Kinahan has fled to Iran

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GSOC officer resigns amid claims he was at house party with Gerry Hutch hours after Regency verdict

EXCLUSIVE: The officer, who sources say was part of the investigation into the death of Detective Superintendent Colm Fox, resigned during the week after being confronted about the allegation

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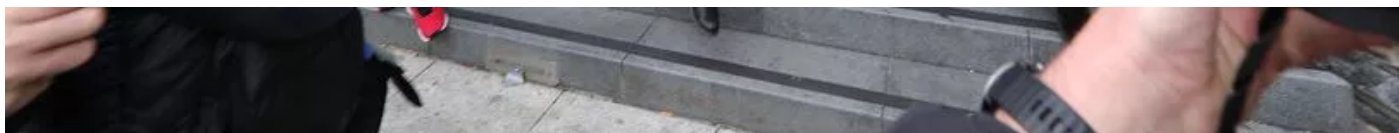
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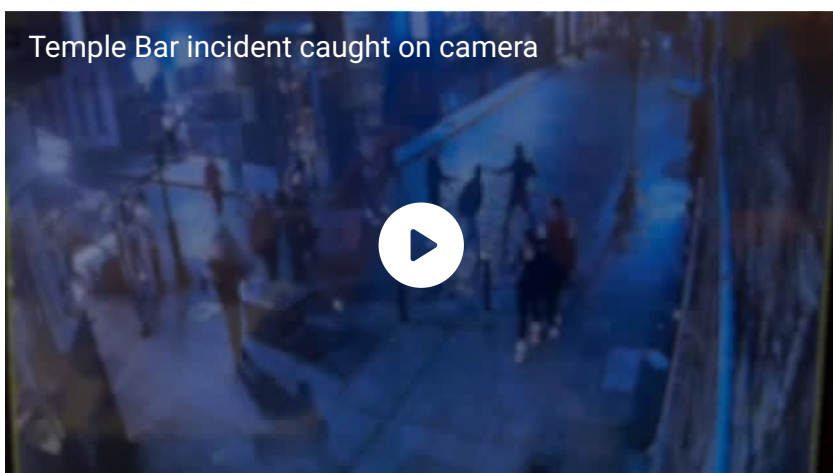
Gerry Hutch walks free from court after being cleared of the murder of David Byrne (Image: Collins Photos)

An investigator with the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission has resigned amid claims he attended a house party with Gerry Hutch on Monday.

The Irish Mirror has exclusively learned that an officer with GSOC is under investigation over claims he attended a gathering at a house for Hutch (60) following his sensational 'not guilty' verdict for the murder of David Byrne.

The officer, who sources say was part of the investigation into the death of Detective Superintendent Colm Fox, resigned during the week after being confronted about the allegation.

[READ MORE: Gerry Hutch cuts a relaxed figure as he emerges for a stroll in Dublin and continues to enjoy freedom](#)



Det Superintendent Colm Fox, who was the lead investigator into the murder of David Byrne at Dublin's Regency Hotel, died in a horrific tragedy in Ballymun Garda Station in 2019.

And sources say a party was held on Monday to celebrate Hutch's release from prison after the three judges of the Special Criminal Court found him not guilty of the murder which occurred at the Regency Hotel in Dublin on February 5, 2016.



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Shocking moment 11-year-old girl is almost kidnapped in broad daylight - before hero intervenes

The party is alleged to have occurred at a property in Dublin and involved close friends and family members of Hutch, who spent the past year and a half in Wheatfield Prison.

LOADING

 **Ballymun Garda Station and inset, Detective Superintendent Colm Fox**

The officer, who has worked with GSOC for many years, is alleged to have attended

this party - in what has been viewed as a massive conflict of interest.

Sources say the officer was even searched and had their official phone taken from them during the week, as GSOC launched a probe.



Gardai are also understood to have been made aware of the claims.

They come after Hutch walked out the main doors of the Central Criminal Courts in Dublin on Monday - now a free man.

Incredibly, in spite of the threat to his life and his extremely high profile, The Monk

has remained in Ireland for the time being.

LOADING

Gerry Hutch spotted in Dublin on Friday (Image: Pdraig O'Reilly)

And after dramatic pictures and video of him emerging from the courts in Dublin with a lengthy beard and long hair on Monday - Hutch has now shaved off both.

He now sports a freshly clean-shaven face and a short haircut, which he clearly got in the hours after he sensationally walked free - having served over a year in Wheatfield Prison on remand.

It comes as pals of The Monk had claimed that he did indeed intend to stay in Dublin for a few days to celebrate his 60th birthday and his release, before jetting off to the sun.



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However many had been sceptical that he would remain in Ireland for even one more day.

And after the Irish Mirror broke the story this evening, GSOC issued a new statement confirming an internal probe into the matter.

"GSOC became aware in recent days of a potential conflict of interest involving a staff member.

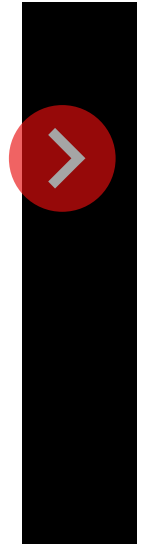
"GSOC immediately commenced an internal investigation into the matter.

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"The officer concerned has now submitted their resignation and GSOC's investigation is ongoing.

"GSOC has no further comment at this time."

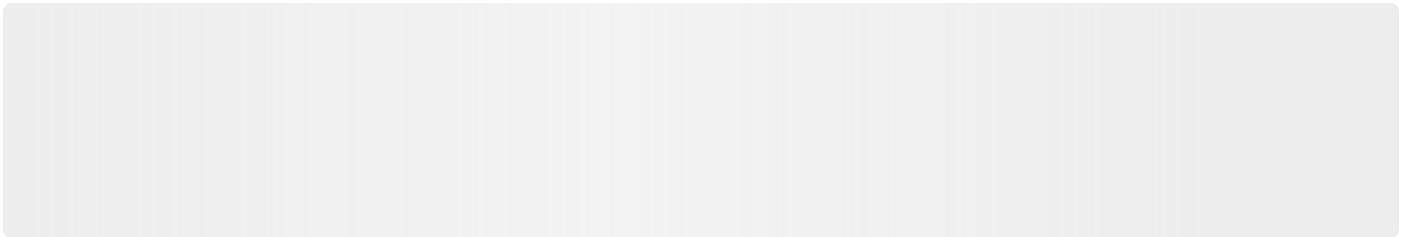
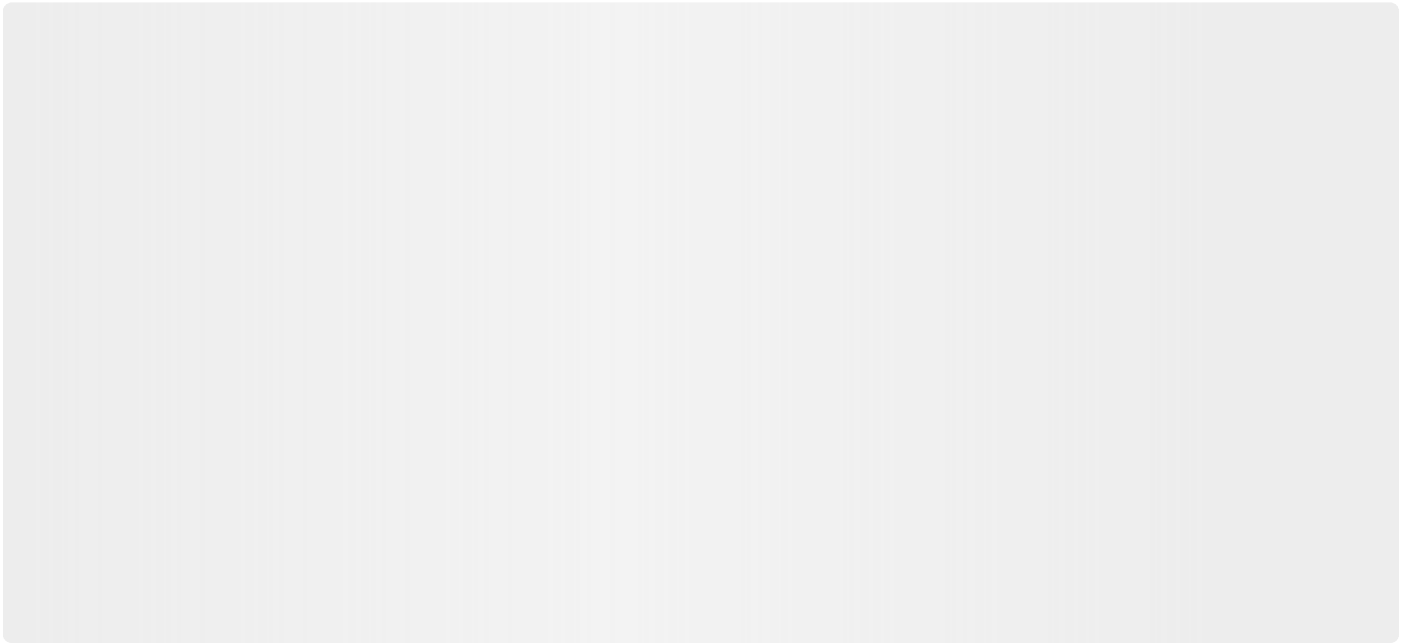
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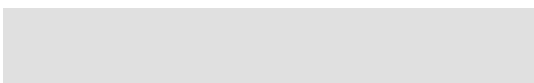
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