

Statement issued on behalf of Michelle Greaney, Sarah Greaney and the Hayes Family by solicitor Frank Kelleher following today's inquest into the deaths of their parents Michael & Valerie Greaney.

"Michelle and Sarah mourn the tremendous loss of Michael - a loving father and husband and Valerie - a dearly loved and devoted wife and mother who supported Michael throughout his illness. They would request that the media would report with due responsibility and sensitivity to them on this most personal of tragedies. They do not seek to hold any body or person responsible for this tragedy.

"They wish to acknowledge and thank the services who were involved with Michael's care and treatment namely the Central Mental Hospital, the HSE and the Cork Mental Health Unit for all the care and attention they gave to their late father. The family would also wish to acknowledge the continued support offered to them by the HSE.

"Having gone through all the records made available to them, it is accepted that every professional who was involved throughout Michael's treatment acted in his best interests doing their utmost to assist in every way possible.

"The family acknowledge that in light of the fact that different agencies were involved various breakdowns and shortcomings in communication may have arisen inadvertently. My clients have fully co-operated with the HSE inquiry commissioned to investigate the full extent of this tragedy and await the findings.

"The family hope that the recommendations of the HSE inquiry in identifying any shortcomings that may have arisen will be implemented in full and assist healthcare professionals in dealing with similar events. They especially hope that the relevant agencies in the Cork area have access to on-call forensic psychiatric assistance on a 24-hour basis.

"The family will not be making any further comment in this matter and would ask the media to respect their privacy as they have done to date."

Frank Kelleher,
Solicitor.