

# AG probes bail case

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## We just want justice, says victim's dad

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was remanded for two weeks.

At the end of the remand period, he was released on a RM100,000 police bail, which was extended by a week on Feb 12, and by another week today.

The granting of bail to the suspect had upset the victim's family, and Rais vowed last week to look into the matter.

"His (Siow's) death has raised many doubts and views that may be in conflict with procedures and practices (of police).

"I have received many memorandums, letters and calls on the case. To show that it is taking the case seriously, the AG's Chambers has taken action to start an inquiry, which is in line with the wishes of the government and others for fair administration of justice," Rais said at his office today.

When informed about the inquiry, Siow's father Weng Kong, 71, said all the family wants is to see justice done.

Rais said the inquiry team will study the procedures taken by the police when handling the case, adding that the murder investigation itself will continue as normal.

He said the public can rest assure that if the inquiry

team finds any misconduct in the handling of the case, the relevant authorities will take action regardless of the position or standing of the wrongdoers.

Rais also placated fears of a conflict of interest in the inquiry, considering it was the AG's Chambers which had initially directed that bail be granted to the suspect.

He said: "The parties conducting the inquiry will be different from those who have already done the initial work on the case," adding that his ministry will closely monitor the inquiry and its findings will be made public.

In SEREMBAN, state CID chief ACP Kamarulzaman Itam said the extension of bail is to facilitate further investigations.

"We received the directive from the AG's Chambers this morning to extend the bail for another week."

He said police have recorded statements from several witnesses and have forwarded the investigation papers to the AG for further action.

Asked if the suspect could be charged in court at any time before the bail expires, Kamarulzaman said: "He can be produced and charged at any time if the AG decides and directs us to do so."

Release of prime murder suspect raises questions about police conduct

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**PUTRAJAYA, Mon:** Strong public reaction has prompted the Attorney-General's Chambers to call a special inquiry into the circumstances of a police case in Seremban in which a prime murder suspect was allowed bail.

The inquiry is expected to begin at the end of this week when the suspect's bail expires, said Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Dr Rais Yatim, who is in charge of legal matters.

He said the inquiry team, which will be selected by the AG, will comprise representatives from the Chambers, public legal sector and the police.

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The inquiry team may bring in officers from the Anti-Corruption Agency if information garnered during the inquiry calls for their involvement, he added.

The murder case involves the shooting of Siow Nan Keong, 28, by a prominent businessman in front of a pub in Taman Thivy Jaya, Seremban, on Jan 14. The two men had argued over parking spots.

The 42-year-old suspect had surrendered to the police when they arrived at the scene, and

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