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Stephen Lawrence's mother to meet home secretary over smear claims

Theresa May to meet Doreen Lawrence in wake of claims that undercover police officers were tasked with discrediting family of murdered teenager



📷 Doreen Lawrence has said the smear claims were among the most troubling aspects of an affair that seemed to have lost its power to shock. Photograph: Sarah Lee for the Guardian

Hugh Muir

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The furore over claims that the Met sought to smear the family of murdered black teenager [Stephen Lawrence](#) and their supporters took a dramatic twist on Tuesday night when it emerged that his mother is to meet with the home secretary on Thursday morning.

Whitehall sources say Theresa May acceded to a request from [Doreen Lawrence](#). Though ministers are keen not to prejudge the result of any formal inquiry into the claims from former undercover police officer Peter Francis, they are anxious to assure the Lawrences that the allegations are being taken seriously. They are also mindful of the public backlash that would occur if they were seen to have snubbed Lawrence.

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