

RTÉ

Statement re Irish Times/ BAI process

Monday 9 April 2012

Last Thursday the BAI provided RTÉ with a copy of its report into the Prime Time Investigates programme *A Mission to Prey*. RTÉ and the production staff involved in the programme have 14 days to make submissions to the BAI on the report, or to request an oral hearing or to go to the High Court. All these options are laid out clearly in the 2009 Broadcasting Act. It would be entirely inappropriate for RTÉ to comment on the BAI's report at this stage while the document is still in the early stages of being evaluated.

RTÉ wishes to express its disappointment that this report has leaked in circumstances where it prejudices RTÉ's response to the investigation, within an ongoing process, and prejudices the response of the programme-makers as named individuals. If fair regulatory procedures are to apply, RTÉ and the production team must be allowed to make submissions to the BAI in response to the report, within the process. The leaking of the report has undermined that process. RTÉ will continue to observe the process, as it is required to do.

RTÉ Corporate Communications

Monday 9 April 2012 10pm