Call for death-in-custody inquiry

The human rights activist Frank Brennan has called for a royal commission into the death of Mulrunji Cameron Doomadgee, the Queensland Aboriginal man who died in police custody on Palm Island six years ago. Writing on the website Eureka Street, Father Brennan, Professor of Law at the Australian Catholic University’s Public Policy Institute, said a transparent, just result had not occurred with the recent publication of a high-level police report. Following the latest inquiry into the circumstances in which Mr Doomadgee, 36, died, when Senior Sergeant Chris Hurley fell on top of him at Palm Island police station, Deputy Commissioner Kathy Rynders found that no officers needed to be disciplined, saying they would be given “managerial guidance” instead.

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