

## **BBC article - McCanns Used Fund to Pay Mortgage**

**The fighting fund set up to help find Madeleine McCann was used by her parents to make two mortgage payments, their spokesman has said.**

*Clarence Mitchell said: "The fund has always had the ability to assist the family financially if necessary."*

*He said Kate and Gerry McCann stopped using the fund in September when they were made formal suspects in the case.*

*Four-year-old Madeleine, from Rothley, Leicestershire, vanished from her holiday apartment in Portugal on 3 May.*

*On Saturday, her family will hold a church service to mark six months since she was last seen in the Algarve resort of Praia da Luz.*

*Mr McCann wrote in his latest internet diary entry: "We will be marking this milestone very quietly with an ecumenical prayer service for Madeleine and other missing children in the local Anglican church."*

*'Changed status'*

*According to the Find Madeleine website, the fund has so far received more than £1million in donations.*

*At its launch, Madeleine's uncle John McCann said: "This fund will be a vehicle to help our family get our darling, wee niece back."*

*Mr Mitchell said Mr and Mrs McCann began using it earlier this year to help pay their mortgage.*

*"When they were made arguido [suspects], it stopped, which was a mutual decision on the part of the fund and the McCanns," he said.*

*"They were happy to accept that their changed status meant they were no longer entitled to that assistance."*

*Meanwhile, it has been confirmed that Mr McCann, 39, will return to his job as a consultant cardiologist at Leicester's Glenfield Hospital on Thursday.*

*It is understood he will initially work three half-days each week and will not have any direct contact with patients until his employers feel he is ready.*

*He and Mrs McCann, 39, who is a GP, have been on unpaid leave since Madeleine disappeared.*

*Elsewhere, it has been reported that private investigators from the Spanish detective agency hired by the McCanns have found another blonde girl who they believe has been kidnapped.*

*Sources at the Metodo 3 agency reportedly claim Interpol is investigating the discovery of the girl living in the Rif mountains in northern Morocco.*

*The Daily Mirror newspaper also claimed that the new Portuguese officer leading the hunt for Madeleine, Paulo Rebelo, spent three hours examining the McCanns' holiday apartment on Monday.*

Source: [news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/7068760.stm](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-7068760)