Unsworth's remorse is genuine says judge

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Halton Police searched Unsworth's car and found her cell phone on the vehicle's floor, said Jago. Unsworth's cell records showed texts near the approximate time of the collision.

Farnand conceded that Unsworth's actions weren't deliberate and her contrition spared the McCarthy family of having to endure a trial. A psychiatrist assessment report said that Unsworth has fully accepted responsibility, is very upset about the loss of life and was diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder due to the incident. Unsworth cried quietly throughout the proceedings.

But Farnand noted from a recent article in *The Globe & Mail* that distracted driving has become the number one cause of death on roadways, surpassing impaired driving and speed-related fatalities. According to Ontario Provincial

Police statistics, 78 people were killed in 2013 in this province due to distracted driving.

"(Unsworth's) remorse is genuine. However, this type of driving will not be tolerated," Farnand said.

Following sentencing, Lacy made a request to the court that since no witness had actually seen Unsworth using her cell phone at the time of the accident and because the conviction had been reached on the grounds of careless driving, the \$300 fine for distracted driving would be conditionally stayed, which was agreed upon by Farnand and Jago.

Unsworth will serve her jail sentence intermittently on weekends beginning March 21.

Her driver's licence was suspended immediately.

—With files from Lisa Tallyn, staff writer

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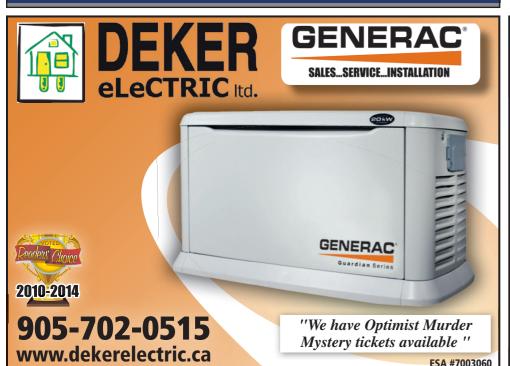


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