

LOCAL TEEN CHARGED IN 'SEXTORTION' INVESTIGATION

BRYAN MYERS
bmyers@metroland.com

A 19-year-old Georgetown man has been arrested in relation to an online extortion investigation that began in August 2020.

Halton Regional Police Service began the investigation after a victim reported being repeatedly contacted online and asked to send a nude image in exchange for money - the victim was assured the image would only be viewed for a few seconds and deleted.

Once the suspect obtained the image, he saved it and threatened to distribute the image online unless a sum of money was paid.

No money was exchanged.

On June 12, the Georgetown man was arrested and a search warrant executed at his residence resulting in numerous electronic devices being seized by police. The suspect has been charged with two counts of extortion.

These charges have not been proven in court.

Police believe there may have been additional victims in the community and are asking anyone who had contact with the following online identities to contact police: Ben_Haden0821 Zander_Laudry20 Nick_Smith James_Hamilton S_man8080/li>

Halton Police are encouraging parents to discuss online 'sextortion' with their children. Police should be contacted immediately if it is believed someone has fallen victim to this type of crime.

COUNCIL

HOW TO BE SAFE WITH FIREWORKS THIS CANADA DAY



Metroland file photo
The Town of Halton Hills is cautioning residents to observe health and safety protocols for both COVID-19 and fireworks this Canada Day.

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bmyers@metroland.com

Local residents eager to celebrate Canada Day with fireworks are being reminded by the Halton Hills Fire Department to maintain COVID-19 health and safety protocols.

Residents are reminded to practice physical distancing, wear a mask or face covering and to keep gatherings to 10 people or fewer.

"Statistics tells us that almost a third of fireworks-related injuries occur on or around Victoria Day and Canada Day," said Fire Chief Jon Rehill. "Almost three-quarters of injuries required a visit to the hos-

pital, so I would ask residents to please take extra care when handling fireworks this year."

The town's bylaws regarding the discharge of fireworks include:

- The discharge of fireworks is only permitted on Canada Day;
- No person under the age of 18 shall set off any fireworks, except under supervision and control of a person 18 years of age or older;
- No person shall discharge fireworks on land except his own unless consent has been obtained;
- No person shall discharge any fireworks in or on any highway, street

land, square, or other public space;

- The discharge of fireworks is not permitted on town-owned property, such as parks, without first obtaining written permission;
- No person shall discharge fireworks in such a place or manner to create danger or nuisance to others;
- No person shall discharge any fireworks into any building, doorway, structure, automobile, or any other place where such setting off might create a danger or nuisance to any person or property;
- Firecrackers are not permitted.

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Challenging a Will because of "Undue Influence"



M. Jasmine Sweatman
B.A., J.D., LL.M., TEP, C.S., EPC, CPCA

Certified Specialist in
Estates & Trusts

Wills, Powers of
Attorney, Trusts,
Estate Litigation and
Administration,
Corporate, Real Estate

The basic purpose of a Will is to allow individuals to set out their final wishes and instructions as to how their affairs should be handled after they pass away. Therefore, the Court will not set aside a Will lightly.

Often when a Will is challenged "undue influence" is one of the primary grounds. Although it may seem obvious to the Will challenger that the testator was influenced by an ill-intentioned friend or relative, because a Will challenge takes place after the testator has passed away, the testator is unable to say what really happened.

Understandably then, the threshold for establishing a Will was the product of undue influence is high. In *Banton v. Banton* the Superior Court of Ontario stated it must be "...established on the balance of probabilities that the influence imposed by some other person on the deceased was so great and overpowering that the document reflects the will of the former and not that of the deceased."

Although the facts of each case are unique, there are certain indicators of undue influence which have been noted in the case law, including:

- The testator is depending on the beneficiary for emotional and physical needs;
 - The testator is socially isolated;
 - The testator has experienced recent bereavement; and
 - The testator has made a new will not consistent with prior Wills.
- Simply showing there was opportunity or motive to unduly influence a testator, however, is not sufficient to prove undue influence.

Considering the high threshold and evidentiary hurdles for challenging a Will, those considering a Will challenge should evaluate their options by consulting with a lawyer experienced in estate litigation.

Call us we can help.

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