

'Continue liquor deal or pay consequences': trial

By LISA CARTWRIGHT
The Champion

Back out of the contra-band liquor deal and suffer the consequences was the warning David Fiorino gave the three partners in early summer of 1996, a jury heard Friday.

Dominco Sacco, whose partnership including the deceased Stephen Andreopoulos, 36, of Barrie and Jim Pearson, took the stand during the ongoing first-degree murder trial of Mr. Fiorino, 27, of Brampton in Superior Court in Milton.

During assistant Crown Charon Kerr's questioning, the jury heard that Mr. Fiorino, formerly of Milton, told the partners he was getting 500 cases of alcohol from the Hells Angels motorcycle gang and once the deal was in motion, the partners had to continue or "pay the consequences."

The jury heard the three men met Mr. Fiorino through a mutual associate.

Mr. Fiorino told the partner he could get them 500 cases of alcohol at \$100 a case.

Mr. Sacco told the jury that they usually only received about 30 cases from one source, with the cost of \$135 per case.

"We met all his demands. We did everything he wanted us to do. That is why what has happened now has shocked everybody."
DOMINCO SACCO

Mr. Fiorino's deal was an excellent one, Mr. Sacco said.

A second meeting was arranged at a doughnut shop in Maple. In addition to the three partners, Mr. Fiorino brought a man he introduced as Tony.

Earlier in the trial, the jury heard that Tony was Raffaele Valante, a former employer of Mr. Fiorino who was used to intimate the partners.

Details of the deal were hammered out during the meeting.

Mr. Fiorino told the partners that they had to arrange their own transportation as well as storage for the alcohol, Mr. Sacco testified.

Only one partner would be able to pick up the alcohol from the warehouse near Cornwall.

That person had to be unarmed. On July 2, 1996, the day of the

deal, the partners met at Mr. Sacco's home and wrapped the \$50,000 in \$1,000 bundles.

Mr. Sacco then drove Mr. Andreopoulos to a service station in Maple where they had arranged to meet Mr. Fiorino.

Mr. Andreopoulos went inside to complete the rental of the U-Haul, while Mr. Sacco sat with Mr. Fiorino.

Mr. Fiorino talked about how well business was going as well as some of his clients — some of who were related to the mob, Mr. Sacco told the jury.

He also said the accused told him that he was planning to send more business their way.

Mr. Sacco told Ms Kerr that the partners did everything they were supposed to do.

"We met all his demands. We did everything he wanted us to do. That is why what has happened now has shocked everybody," he said.

Mr. Andreopoulos was last seen on July 2, 1996. His remains were discovered by police buried on a Derry Road property February 13, 1998.

The trial, which begin in April and is expected to last three to four months, continued at press time yesterday.

A total of 90 witnesses are expected to be called.

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CORRECTION NOTICE

In our May 24-30, 2000 flyer, the following error occurred:

- The HP Pavilion 8652C Computer System as advertised on page 13 should have specified that the monitor is not included in the package price.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our valued customers.

Crawford Lake isn't chosen for Olympics

Crawford Lake is no longer a potential site for the archery competition if Toronto receives the 2008 Summer Olympics. Instead, Bronte Creek Provincial Park will be home to the five to seven-day competition.

While Bob Burchett, director of conservation land services for Conservation Halton, thought Crawford Lake was a perfect site for the venue, he wished the provincial park success.

He said the archery competition would have fit perfectly with the site that boosts authentic native long houses.

Toronto is competing against 10 other cities for the Olympics including Beijing, Paris, Osaka, Seville, Bangkok, Istanbul, Kuala Lumpur, Cairo and Havana. The winning city will be announced in July, 2001.

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These services will continue to be provided up to Monday, July 3, 2000 at which time changes to existing and new services will begin. These include expanded GO TRAIN Feeder, School, and Demand Responsive Services. Over the next few weeks please look for details.

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