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# Murder suspect told cop liquor deal too risky: trial

By LISA CARTWRIGHT

The Champion

Doing a large liquor deal wasn't worth it, murder suspect David Fiorino told an undercover OPP officer the day after he met him at Grundy Lake Provincial Park near Parry Sound.

"It's (the liquor deal) easy to do but, like I said, it's the consequences you got to worry about," Mr. Fiorino is heard telling OPP Det. Kenneth Watson in an intercepted conversation played during the ongoing first-degree murder trial in Superior Court in Milton last Friday.

Wearing a suit and sporting a mustache, goatee and long dark hair pulled back in a ponytail, Det. Watson told the jury his job was to befriend Mr. Fiorino, 27, who was camping with his wife Kimberly. Mr. Fiorino's cousin and his family were also at the park that weekend.

"As a police officer, your objectives were two-fold," said Crown attorney Brian O'Marra to the 27year-old detective. "You were to get as much information as possible and provide information to lead. to the finding of the body."

By the long weekend, the OPP hadn't discovered the body of resident Stephen Barrie

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"It's (the liquor deal) easy to do but, like I said, it's the consequences you got to worry about."

**DAVID FIORINO** 

property February 13, 1998.

On August 1, 1997, Det. Watson and Det. Marsha Boyd, who posed as his wife, checked into their campsite, which was located across from the accused.

After establishing camp, Det. Watson borrowed a pot from Mr. Fiorino's cousin, the jury heard.

Det. Watson testified that later that evening he saw the accused walk past him toward his cousin's campsite. Det. Watson followed under the pretense of returning the borrowed pot.

He was then introduced to Mr. Fiorino, the jury heard.

The following day, Det. Watson met Mr. Fiorino and his wife at the beach and struck up a conversation.

The jury heard Det. Watson had a Niagra, or body pack, located in a pouch of a fanny pack to record conversations between the two.

Later that afternoon, after Det. Andreopoulos, 36, who was last Watson and the accused spent seen with the accused July 2, 1996. some time getting to know each His badly-decomposed body was other, Mr. Fiorino told the detecdiscovered buried on a Derry Road tive he was under police investiga-

"He (said he) was still under investigation over the trouble last year," Det. Watson told the court. It was "over a liquor deal where someone got killed."

Det. Watson said the accused told him that he made \$200,000, but was unable to touch it. The Comisso family was laundering some of it, while his father had some invested.

Mr. Fiorino also explained one of the partners in the liquor deal was missing, but the police didn't have a body, Det. Watson said.

The jury heard the conversation ended when the Fiorinos and Det. Watson went cliff diving.

Later that evening, Det. Watson and Det. Boyd went to the accused's campsite for a bonfire. At about 3 a.m., the two men went for a walk and Det. Watson again asked about the liquor deal and how Mr. Fiorino was able to make so much money.

Mr. Fiorino responded that doing the deal was easy and all one had to do was to "find a sucker."

Over the course of the weekend, Det. Watson continued to develop a friendship with the accused, but the liquor deal wasn't discussed, the jury heard.

On the holiday Monday, the two exchanged phone numbers. Four days later, Mr. Fiorino called the detective to see if they could get together. They made plans to meet the following week.

The trial will continue Monday.

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