

Officer charged with harassment

A high-profile police officer has stepped down from her role as coordinator of Crime Stoppers of Halton while she faces a charge of criminal harassment.

Sgt. Lee-Ann Ansell, 40, was charged in connection with what police are calling an off-duty incident.

On June 27, police were called to a residence in Burlington. Following an investigation that included interviewing witnesses, the officer was charged.

Sgt. Ansell remains on active duty, but has stepped down from Crime Stoppers.

Yesterday, she issued a news release announcing the decision, and said she was committed to the program.

"After consultation with my supervisor, so as not to risk compromising, through perception, the excellent program that Crime Stoppers is, I will be temporarily re-assigned until this issue is addressed and dealt with through the judicial process," said Sgt. Ansell.

In addition to the criminal case, a separate internal Halton police investigation by the Professional Standards Bureau is also

underway, said Inspector Dave Denton.

Police haven't released any further information surrounding the charge.

She's scheduled to appear in Burlington court August 7.

A 20-year veteran, Sgt. Ansell made headlines in late 1993 when she and partner Chris Perrin recovered a five-day-old baby abducted from Joseph Brant Hospital by a woman posing as a nurse.

Sgt. Ansell and her partner found baby Shelby Walsh unharmed in a motel room 10 hours after the abduction. Karen Susan Hill, 48, was later convicted on a kidnapping charge.

The successful investigation earned Sgt. Ansell an award from the International Association of Women Police Officers, and soon after she was promoted to sergeant. The story was recently the basis of a made-for-television movie.

But Sgt. Ansell also gained press in 1999 after pleading guilty to neglect of duty under the Police Services Act for sleeping on the job. She forfeited 56 hours for the infraction.

Shortly after, Sgt. Ansell moved to the role of Crime Stoppers coordinator.

Man charged with impaired driving

Police Blotter

A 59-year-old Valleyview Crescent man was charged with impaired driving Tuesday following a driving complaint from another motorist.

Halton police were called to the area at 2 a.m. and arrested a man in his driveway.

He will appear in Ontario Court (provincial division) in Milton August 15.

Motorcyclist exposed

A woman driver stopped at a red light at Ontario and Main streets Sunday observed a male motorcyclist exposing himself, police said.

The man, who wasn't wearing pants, was next to the woman at the intersection at about 2:30 a.m.

Police say he was driving an older model black motorcycle.

Public mischief charge

A 40-year-old Kitchener

man was charged with public mischief and being intoxicated in a public place after he allegedly jumped on the hood of a Honda Civic at the Hardball Cafe Saturday at 2 a.m.

Damage to the car is estimated at \$750.

The suspect will appear in Ontario Court (provincial division) in Milton August 15.

Car broken into

A stereo, golf clubs and CDs were stolen from a 1993 Ford Probe between June 25 and 26 while parked on Pine Street.

Suspects entered the car by prying open the driver's side window of the vehicle.

The value of the goods taken is \$2,800.

Damage to the car is estimated at \$500.

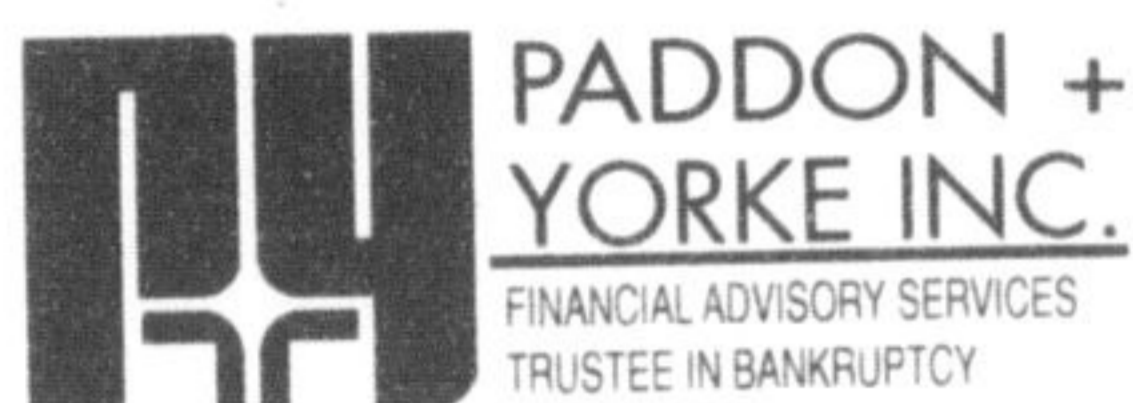
Police are investigating.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #1

Mid-Peninsula Transportation Corridor EA Terms of Reference

THE STUDY:

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has retained URS Cole, Sherman & Associates Ltd. to prepare a Terms of Reference (ToR) to guide the future preparation of a Route Location/Concept Design Individual Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Mid-Peninsula Transportation Corridor.

In June 2001, the Premier and the Minister of Transportation announced the completion of the Niagara Peninsula Transportation Needs Assessment initiative. The key product of the needs assessment is a multi-modal Transportation Development Strategy – a "road map" to guide transportation investment. The Mid-Peninsula Transportation Corridor has been identified as one of the key elements in the Transportation Development Strategy. As a result, MTO has initiated the environmental assessment (EA) process for the potential new transportation corridor. The first step in the EA process is the preparation of an Environmental Assessment Terms of Reference. Other elements identified in the needs assessment study (i.e. road widening, transit improvements, etc.) will be examined under separate initiatives.

THE PROCESS:

For an Individual EA, the Environmental Assessment Act requires that a proponent prepare a Terms of Reference (ToR) to define the scope of the proposed EA Study. The ToR requires approval by the Minister of Environment and Energy (MOEE) and the subsequent Individual EA is then prepared in accordance with the approved ToR.

The intention is to submit the ToR to MOEE for review in March 2003. The final product will be a ToR document which will provide a definitive scope for the subsequent Individual EA project.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRES:

In preparing the ToR, the Project Team will seek public input and comment via five rounds of Public Information Centres (PICs). The first round of PICs has been arranged to present the overall study process and the Draft Transportation Needs Assessment.

The information centres will be held as follows:

Tuesday July 16th, 2002
3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Farmers Market Square
(between Division St. and Yonge St.
off of King St.)
Welland

Wednesday July 17th, 2002
3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Stoney Creek Municipal Hall
777 Hwy. 8
(at Jones Rd.)
Stoney Creek

Thursday July 18th, 2002
3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn Burlington
Burlington Room
3063 South Service Rd.
Burlington

Additional PICs will be held in August 2002, to present the same material for those who can not attend on the above noted PIC dates. Notices advising of meeting times and locations will be published the week before the PICs.

Three more rounds of PICs and a round of public workshops will be held over the fall 2002 to winter 2003 period.

COMMENTS:

Comments and information regarding this project are being collected to assist the Ministry of Transportation in meeting the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act. This material will be maintained on file for use during the project and may be included in project documentation. Information collected will be used in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

For further information, or to be added to the mailing list, please contact the following Project Team representatives or visit our Web site (at the address below):

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