

COURTS: Man charged after police confrontation that left his father dead, and his brother seriously injured

House arrest lifted on assault suspect

BY RICK VANDERLINDE
STAFF WRITER

Enzo Romagnuolo, the 20-year-old Sunderland man whose clash with York Regional Police led to his father being killed, has had his "onerous" bail conditions eased.

Under new conditions imposed by Judge Robert Weekes Thursday, Romagnuolo will be allowed to return to his job as a meat cutter at a Newmarket grocery store.

Romagnuolo had worked at

Weston Produce in Stouffville before his 44-year-old father Tony was fatally shot and his 17-year-old brother Rocco was critically wounded by police on Dec. 28.

But the grocery store where Enzo had worked for about three years has since closed, forcing him to move to a Newmarket store.

In his decision, Weekes described the house arrest placed on Enzo by Judge Sherrill Rogers as "onerous."

Romagnuolo is charged with assaulting police in connection with the police shooting at his family's Sunderland home.

"The bail conditions were more suited for someone facing a homicide charge," Weekes said.

During his original bail hearing Dec. 31, an emotional Romagnuolo said he had to replace his father as head of the family.

Under his new bail conditions,

Romagnuolo can work, visit his brother in hospital and attend medical and legal appointments between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

He can leave his family home outside of those hours if he is accompanied by one of four people who have put up \$5,000 each for his \$20,000 bail bond.

Romagnuolo's lawyer, Joseph Bloomenfeld, had requested his client be released on his own recognizance.

But Weekes said he was still concerned about admissions Romagnuolo had made to Toronto psychiatrist Hans Arndt.

Arndt testified Romagnuolo admitted telling York Region Const. Mike Hoskin that "he would f---ing kill him" when the officer called the family home on Dec. 20. "This behaviour is unexplained at this time," Weekes said. "It may be just some puffery, but it must be taken seriously."



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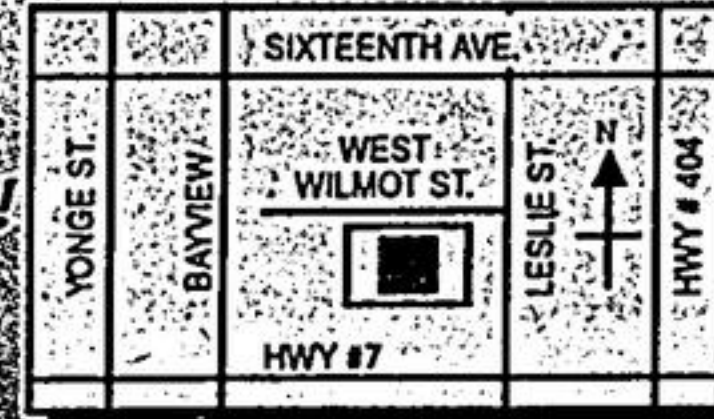
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