

Baby's grandfather says cop's sentence is 'a disgrace'

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without a word.

But lawyer Kinahan said it's been a time of "sheer living hell" for the 13-year-veteran and his family.

"This chapter is finished and he's glad," Kinahan said, adding Orr had been left out on a limb by senior officers.

"He feels no bitterness, but the position we've had from day one is that Neil Orr was left to do this on his own, with no supervision and no assistance and that has carried

through to today's date."

Zachary's grandfather, Gordon Rogers, said it's been difficult on his family as well, especially on Zachary's parents Laura Morrison and his son Scott.

The baby was found hanging from the straps of his car seat, which had been left on a chair in a second-floor bedroom. He died 16 days later.

No criminal charges were ever laid against babysitter Cynthia Taylor, largely as a result of Orr's advice to the Crown attorney's office.

An inquest into the death began in May, 1998, but was halted after three days when evidence of Taylor's criminal record came to light, as well as a three-inch-thick Children's Aid Society file.

Orr had told Ash and Dale repeatedly her record was clean, despite the fact that four months before the inquest began he printed off a list of six incidents detailing police calls to Taylor's home for domestic disputes. One of those print outs contained an assault conviction against Taylor for throwing a coffee mug at her husband

and partially severing his left ear.

Peel Regional Police then launched a re-investigation into Zachary's death and Orr's probe, but without Orr's co-operation as he felt they may be forming a criminal case against him.

That move resulted in a conviction of insubordination against Orr for failing to co-operate with Peel officers. Orr is appealing that decision.

A second inquest found Zachary's death accidental and Rogers, a former police officer, insists justice still not has been

done.

"Well, we certainly knew it wasn't going to be any major punishment," he said moments after Kelly delivered the sentence.

"I think it's a disgrace, not only for the officers of this force but for officers across the country."

Kelly addressed Rogers directly after sentencing Orr, telling him the tragedy affected many people, including himself.

"I came to feel I also knew Zachary and believe me when I say I share your loss and sorrow. God bless."

Allegations surprise chairperson

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The ministry's rules also require frequent testing of water samples, stringent treatment requirements and the public release of quarterly water quality information for Ontario's 630 water treatment plants.

Micro-biological and chemical testing must also be done by accredited laboratories, while unsafe drinking water must be reported immediately to the ministry, the local medical health officer and the waterworks owner.

The measures were ordered after a tainted water supply in Walkerton caused six deaths and more than 2,000 residents fell ill earlier this year.

Regional chairperson Bill Fisch said he was surprised by the Ministry's allegations considering the provincial inspection said the region was in compliance with all new drinking water regulations, except the daily testing of turbidity.

MAINTAIN QUALITY, SAFETY

Regular turbidity testing methods — in place prior to the ministry order — had proved effective of maintaining the quality and safety of the water, Fisch said.

"We have taken great pains to conduct our water tests and make sure our water is safe," said Fisch at Friday's Greater Toronto Services Board meeting.

"I'm disappointed the timelines didn't allow us to get up to speed with the new provincial guidelines.

More than a dozen municipal wells supply water to people living in smaller communities, such as King City, Mount Albert and Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Residents in Aurora, Newmarket and East Gwillimbury draw water from deep underground aquifers, while Georgina receives treated water from Lake Simcoe. The region has committed \$30 million to construct a new Lake Simcoe facility that should be in service by 2002, replacing a plant built in 1958.

Richmond Hill, Markham and Vaughan residents are supplied with water from the City of Toronto, which treats water taken from Lake Ontario before sending it to the southern municipalities.

And another 50,000 regional homeowners rely on private wells for water.

York Region conducts about 5,000 routine water supply tests each year, in addition to the regular testing conducted by the area municipalities on components of their water supply system.

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