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# 5 years in jail on 8th drunk driving conviction

BY JEFF MITCHELL  
 Metroland Staff

A career criminal has been sent to prison for nearly five years after being convicted of his eighth drinking and driving offence since 1979.

The only way to keep Douglas Jolicoeur, 42, from endangering others is to put him behind bars for a substantial time, Crown prosecutor Brenda Green said during a sentencing hearing for the Oshawa native Tuesday.

Ms Green said Mr. Jolicoeur's "horrific" criminal record — he's notched 68 convictions over the past 25 years — indicates how little regard the man holds for the law, and the safety of others.

"He has been convicted multiple times of drinking and driving and he is a potential killer," Ms Green said in urging Superior Court Justice Myrna Lack to give Mr. Jolicoeur penitentiary time. "The only way to protect the public against offenders like Mr. Jolicoeur is to remove them for significant periods of time from society."

"We can't wait until he kills someone to take action."

The judge agreed, sending Mr. Jolicoeur to prison for a total of four years and 10 months. Mr.

Jolicoeur, who has been in custody since his arrest on June 21, 2004, will be credited with two years of pretrial custody.

Mr. Jolicoeur, who never obtained a valid driver's licence, has also been prohibited from driving for life.

During a trial in May a jury heard that Mr. Jolicoeur, who was living in Markham in 2004, stole a car and drove it to Sunderland. Mr. Jolicoeur started a gas bar attendant by driving the car over a curb near the pumps; he then got out of the car and pumped gas with a cigarette in his mouth.

Mr. Jolicoeur paid for his gas, grabbed a case of beer out of the car, put on a jacket and walked off along Hwy. 12, thumbing for a ride, the jury heard.

He was arrested by Durham Regional Police near Hwy. 7 and provided a breath sample that showed he was impaired. During the trial, a toxicology expert testified Mr. Jolicoeur's blood-alcohol level was probably between two and three times the legal limit when he was driving.

In passing sentence, the judge noted that until he can conquer booze, Mr. Jolicoeur will be prone to criminal behaviour.

## Woman robbed outside bank

A 63-year-old Markham woman was robbed Tuesday outside a bank.

She had just made a cash withdrawal at the TD Canada Trust branch on Wooten Way North around 1:30 p.m. As she headed through the parking lot, she was approached by two men, pushed to the ground and robbed.

The men took off through the parking lot and on to Camelot Way.

## Bars charged

Two Markham bars are facing Liquor Licence Act charges after routine inspections at 13 local clubs last weekend.

Three patrons, who refused to leave one of the bars, were arrested on charges of disturbing the peace, resisting arrest and obstructing justice.

Two establishments, Take One Studios on Woodbine Avenue and Club Mirage on Steeles Avenue E., were found in violation of the Liquor Licence Act.

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