

'You bring too much pain to my family, Mr. Hassan': Bobbett

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brothers, Jared and Adam, have needed therapy since the collision.

"You bring too much pain to my family, Mr. Hassan," Mr. Bobbett said.

Mr. Bobbett said Matthew had dreams of attending Royal Military College and becoming a helicopter pilot for the Canadian Forces.

ORGAN DONATIONS

Matthew's eyes were donated to a 65-year-old man and an 85-year-old woman.

His skin was sent to Mount Sinai Hospital for young burn victims, he added.

Mr. Bobbett told the court he cannot understand how someone can intentionally avoid "civil and human responsibility" to stop and help his son.

Unanswered questions and the lack of closure left him with an open wound that made it hard to be a parent.

"It was an accident, so why did you run?" he asked.

A victim impact statement, written by Matthew's mother, Karing Steiner, who no longer lives with Mr. Bobbett, was read by Crown prosecutor Rob Scott.

She called her son popular, talented and an extraordinary boy, adding nothing has remained the same in her life since the tragedy.

More information also emerged

about Mr. Hassan during the hearing.

Born in Guyana, Mr. Hassan worked to help his family and is employed, his lawyer Jason Rabinovitch told the court.

RESPECTED IN THE COMMUNITY

He is well respected by the people who know him, several of whom filed letters of support with the court.

Mr. Rabinovitch said his client does not pose a danger to the community and is capable of following court orders.

A sentence should not be the imposition of a penalty that will crush the future of the person being sentenced, Mr. Rabinovitch told Justice Edwin Minden.

He asked that Mr. Hassan receive a conditional sentence, to be served in the community.

Mr. Hassan's driving record includes a conviction for driving 180 km/h in a 100 km/h zone in 1999, Mr. Scott said.

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Often, people involved in fail-to-remain collisions will return to the

scene, but what occurred in this case was a six-year major police investigation that involved undercover work and DNA warrants, Mr. Scott said.

He urged Justice Minden to impose a jail sentence of two years and a two-year driving ban and force Mr. Hassan to provide a DNA sample.

Mr. Hassan declined to make a statement when given the opportunity by Justice Minden.

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However, Mr. Rabinovitch said his client asked him to convey deep-felt condolences for the family's loss.

Meanwhile, Matthew's aunt and Mr. Bobbett's sister Linda Wisz, told the court she watched the light go out of her brother's life when his son died.

The family has struggled with Matthew's death, she added.

"There was always a grey shadow lingering in the background, preventing us from being truly happy."

Justice Minden is expected to deliver his sentence Jan. 28.



MATTHEW BOBBETT

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