

In Cuba for Rolling Stones' show, victim wants satisfaction

BY ALI RAZA
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A Whitchurch-Stouffville resident is "disconcerted" with the Canadian government after being robbed in Cuba.

Peter Carle, 65, says he was robbed in Havana on March 25, 2016. He says he did not receive "real assistance" from the Cuban Police, the Cuban Ministry of the Interior or the Canadian Embassy in Havana.

Carle arrived in Havana on March 21 to see The Rolling Stones in concert to celebrate his 65th birthday. With lodging hard to come by, he stayed at the home of a fellow Canadian he knew from previous trips to the island.

For the complete story, visit yorkregion.com

After the concert, he returned to discover all his belongings were gone, including \$5,000 in cash. Carle still had his passport and credit card.

With photographs of the man he accused and a license number of his car, Carle approached the Cuban police.

His case eventually went to the Ministry of the Interior in April.

"As a Canadian citizen, I am somewhat disconcerted by what I have discovered regarding the flaws in the processes that were put in place to protect people and that are clearly not being enacted upon by Canadian authorities," Carle said in an email to Markham-Stouffville MP Jane Philpott's office. "Thus allowing individuals such as (this) to victimize people such as me."

Philpott disagrees. "Our office has been assisting Mr. Carle since he first approached us, and we have worked to ensure he has been connected to all the appropriate federal agencies," Philpott said in an email.

But Carle, who remained on the case in Cuba, says the feds didn't do much to help him either.

When he returned from Havana

on June 5, Carle informed Global Affairs Canada of the accused's arrest and charges in Havana. Carle says he was simply informed him to retain a Cuban lawyer.

"This suggestion on his part clearly indicates (their) complete lack of even basic knowledge as to how the Cuban legal system functions," Carle wrote in an email.

Carle says working through the Cuban legal system cost him a lot of time and money.

Spokesperson Austin Jean from Global Affairs Canada told The Sun-Tribune that "consular services were provided to a Canadian citizen in Havana, Cuba. Consular officials were in contact with local authorities. To protect the privacy of the individual concerned, further details on this case cannot be released."



PETER CARLE: Former lawyer says he was robbed while celebrating his birthday in Cuba this spring.

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September 4: Together

Sunday at 10:00am

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10:30 a.m.
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