

Winter Guide
 Be in the know
 toronto.com

Graduate-level curriculum exclusively designed for online
 FIND YOUR PROGRAM
CAPELLA
 THE UNIVERSITY ONLINE

Tuesday, March 2, 2010 Toronto Edition



Connect with Facebook | Login/Register



-3°C Forecast | Traffic

wheels.ca healthzone.ca yourhome.ca parentcentral.ca toronto.com



thestar.com Web find a business
advanced search | full text article archive

Home News GTA Opinion Business Sports A & E Living Travel Columns Blogs More ▾

Autos Careers Classifieds Deaths Real Estate

HOT TOPICS CHILE EARTHQUAKE FEDERAL BUDGET WINTER OLYMPICS AFGHAN MISSION OSCARS ACTS OF KINDNESS TIGER WOODS TORONTO RAPTORS

Home [News](#)

Man who killed two gets 9-year sentence

Article

Published On Wed Jun 27 2007

[Email](#) | [Print](#) | [Republish](#) | [Add to Favourites](#) | [Report an error](#) | [Share](#) Share

DIANNE WOOD
RECORD STAFF

KITCHENER - Paul Alexander chose to use an SUV as a weapon when he ran over two men on a Waterloo street, a judge said yesterday as he sentenced Alexander to 9.3 years in prison.

The 23-year-old Toronto man has six years left to serve because of time spent in pre-trial custody.

Alexander mowed down the men on Dearborn Place, near the Revolution nightclub, after a confrontation between two groups of Sri Lankan men on Sept. 23, 2005. Chandrasegar (Chandru) Nagulasigamany, 21, and his brother, Soumiyan, 19, suffered massive trauma and internal injuries.

Justice Gerry Taylor accepted that Alexander was at least partly provoked by a large group of men who attacked him and a passenger in his rented SUV just before the killings. One man threw a wooden pallet at the SUV, shattering its rear window. Another man had blocked Alexander in so he couldn't move.

The judge agreed Alexander was just trying to escape in panic and fear when he drove over a curb to get away from his attackers. That's when he first struck Soumi.

His behaviour was fuelled by a combination of being provoked and being drunk, the judge said.

Ads by Google

[Electricity on the Cheap?](#)

\$49 kit has electricity company exec's seeing red! calling for ban.

www.Power-4-Homes.com

But Taylor found it harder to accept that Alexander was still in a provoked state when he turned his SUV around at the dead end of Dearborn Place and headed back toward the group.

Soumi's brother and his friends had run out on the road to help Soumi.

Alexander could have driven right by them and left the area, the judge said. Instead he "drove directly at" Soumi, his brother and two other men.

"I can only conclude he intended to kill or at least seriously harm those four individuals," Taylor said.

Even after that, Alexander turned around yet again and took another run, narrowly missing three men on the lawn of Wit Manufacturing.

Alexander was originally charged with two counts of second-degree murder. But the Crown accepted pleas to manslaughter because provocation can reduce what would otherwise be considered murder to manslaughter. In this case, it caused Alexander to lose control, Crown prosecutor Mark Poland said.

But Taylor said the case came closer to being a murder than just negligence.

He prohibited Alexander from driving for 12 years.

"The community expects when the lives of young persons are taken as a result of violent acts, there will be severe consequences," the judge said.

Alexander had spent 20 months in pretrial custody and was given the usual two-for-one credit.

The victims' parents, who live in Scarborough, declined to make any comment before leaving Superior Court. They have no other children.

The problems began that night after the two groups attended a back-to-school party at the Revolution nightclub on Marsland Drive.

- Advertisement -



Dead end job? Get a grant for going back to school
With the economy still on shaky ground, you need

More Articles

- [Unemployment sends fathers back to school](#)
- [Must-know milestones for a wedding to remember](#)
- [5 steps to getting the job you deserve](#)
- [Fast life insurance quotes don't require an exam](#)

TM Advertising provided by: ARALifestyle.com

Popular

Stories

- [Canadians Own \(the top of\) the Podium](#)
- [DiManno: C'mon, Mr. Commish, let's get in the Games](#)
- [Rapture on Yonge St. as fans celebrate hockey gold](#)
- [Did we win by seam of our pants?](#)

Featured Advertisers

[The 9mm is No Defense](#)

Discover What Self Defense Masters & The Army Don't Want You To Know

Ads by Google

[Could my Husband be Gay?](#)

Worried your husband might be Gay? Take the test & See. Free Online

Ads by Google

Ads by Google

[Self-Defense Secrets Here](#)

Discover The Self-Defense Secrets Of The World's Best Fighters!

www.StreetWarriorsClub.com

[Krav Maga 2 for 1 Offer](#)

Join Krav Maga with a friend and

each get HALF off your membership.

www.atlantakravmaga.com

[MMA Training in Thornhill](#)

#1 in GTA with 2 locations

Learn from MMA Champ Carlos Newton

www.revmma.com/MMA

[Krav Maga Northern VA](#)

Self Defense - Fitness - Fighting

First Month Free 703.339.0881

www.KravMagaNova.com

Several people from each group were ejected, partly due to drunkenness.

Outside the club, a man in Alexander's SUV named Edwin Rasanayagam made a comment to Chandru and a heated exchange followed.

Alexander and several others in his SUV sped off. Alexander parked at the Dearborn Plaza, hoping to sleep off his intoxication and get away from the trouble.

As he left, he lightly bumped one man and almost hit several others.

Chandru's friends were angry at the way he reversed the SUV at them. According to Arikaran Kunaratnam, a University of Waterloo student and friend of Chandru's, they felt they'd been made to look foolish.

Eleven of them headed out to look for Alexander. That's when they attacked the SUV.

"This was a group enterprise to commit a criminal act," said Alexander's lawyer, Joseph Neuberger. "What possesses these groups to feel so insulted to commit these types of acts? Violence begets violence."

If the argument over some perceived insult had ended outside the club, "We wouldn't be here today," the lawyer added.

Rasanayagam was originally charged with two counts of second-degree murder as a party to the crime by aiding Alexander.

Poland said there was some evidence at the preliminary hearing that Rasanayagam had encouraged Alexander to run over people. But because a number of witnesses weren't credible, the Crown would have had a hard time proving that, so the charges were withdrawn, Poland said.

Arikaran Kunaratnam, who punched Rasanayagam, and Sutharsan Sriskandarajah, who hit Alexander through the window of the SUV, were not charged.

Barinder Bhargal threw the wooden pallet at the SUV.

Fenilkumar Patel threw a bat at the vehicle after it narrowly missed hitting him.

[Email](#) | [Print](#) | [Republish](#) | [Add to Favourites](#) | [Report an error](#) | [Share](#) | [Share](#)

Do you know your credit score?



GET YOUR SCORE ▶

Other Star Sites

WHEELS.CA



Special Report:
[Electric cars](#)

[thestar.com](#)

HEALTHZONE.CA



[Fitness Guide](#)

[Toronto Star](#)

YOURHOME.CA



[Home Renovation Tax Credit Guide](#)

[Advertise with us](#)

PARENTCENTRAL.CA



[Early Learning](#)

[Initiatives](#)

TORONTO.COM



[March Break Guide](#)

[Stay up to date](#)

[Corrections](#)
[Contact Webmaster](#)
[FAQ](#)
[Site Map](#)

[About](#)
[Subscribe](#)
[Subscriber Self Service](#)
[Contact Us](#)
[News Releases](#)
[Star Internships](#)
[Careers @ the Star](#)

[Media Kit](#)
[Online Advertising](#)
[Print Advertising](#)
[Special Sections](#)

[Santa Claus Fund](#)
[Fresh Air Fund](#)
[Speakers Bureau](#)
[Classroom Connection](#)
[Community Giving](#)

[RSS Feeds](#)
[Twitter Updates](#)
[News Alerts](#)
[Newsletters](#)
[Mobile Devices](#)

[wheels.ca](#) | [toronto.com](#) | [pages of the past](#) | [Stock photos](#) | [New in Homes](#) | [Car Insurance Quotes](#) | [Leasebusters.com](#) | [Save.ca](#) | [ShopTV](#) | [starsavers.ca](#) |



© Copyright Toronto Star 1996-2010 | [Terms & Conditions](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)