



Taman Inquiry

News Release

May 29, 2008

Subject: Victims Hearings & Media arrangements

The Taman Inquiry into the investigation and prosecution of Derek Harvey-Zenk will hear evidence in two phases. The first phase will commence on June 2, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. at the Winnipeg Convention Centre, 375 York Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, and will continue on the morning of June 3, and all day on June 9, 10 and 11. This first phase will focus on the third leg of the Commission that was given to the Honourable Roger Salhany, Q.C. by Order in Council 403/2007, namely, “whether the services provided to the family of Crystal Taman [who died tragically when her motor vehicle was struck by a motor vehicle operated by Derek Harvey-Zenk, an off duty member of the Winnipeg Police Service, on February 25, 2005] were sufficient having regard to the requirements of the Victims’ Bill of Rights.”

During this first phase Commission Counsel will be calling as witnesses family members of Crystal Taman. The focus will be on their experiences, as victims, within the Manitoba justice system. Commission Counsel will also be calling expert witnesses to describe the nature and operation of Victims Services within the province, as well as justice officials who dealt directly with family members during the two and one-half years the prosecution of Mr. Harvey-Zenk took.

Phase 2 will begin on July 2 and is scheduled to run consecutively for seven weeks. It will focus on “the conduct of the police investigations surrounding the death of Crystal Taman, including but not limited to the correctness and adequacy of the procedures and practices that were followed, and the good faith, objectiveness and professional standards with which the procedures and practices were applied and decisions made,” and on “whether all aspects of the prosecution of Derek-Harvey Zenk, including the Crown’s position on sentence, were conducted in accordance with the professional and ethical standards expected of lawyers and agents of the Attorney General.”

This second phase will begin with witnesses who were at the accident scene, including paramedics and investigators from the East St. Paul Police. Officers from the Winnipeg Police Service Professional Standards Unit who investigated Mr. Harvey-Zenks' activities in the hours leading up to the accident will then be called, as will witnesses interviewed by the Professional Standards Unit. At the end of Phase 2, lawyers involved in the prosecution of Mr. Harvey-Zenk will then be called, as will Mr. Derek Harvey-Zenk. Expert evidence on standards of investigation and on the ethical and professional standards for prosecutors will also be heard. At the close of evidence, parties will be making submissions to the Commissioner.

Transcripts of all evidence taken during Taman Inquiry hearings, as well as copies of all exhibits, will be posted as they come available on the inquiry website: www.tamaninquiry.ca.

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MEDIA ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE INQUIRY:

Some special arrangements have been made to assist media to cover the proceedings; however, there are also limitations of which you may be aware.

1. A limited number of tables are reserved in the hearing room for media use.
2. An audio feed will be provided through a model VA-16/ML8 Opamp Labs Press Feed box. Media will be required to provide their own audio XLR-type connectors, and must also provide their own recording equipment and personnel.
3. The commission **WILL NOT** be supplying video. The commissioner will allow only one television camera selected by the media in attendance each day into the hearing room. It must provide a pool video feed to other outlets through the feed box supplied by the commission. The Press Feed is equipped with standard BNC video input and outputs. Again, media outlets must provide their own recording equipment and personnel.
4. Only the available room light is permitted as lighting. The camera must remain fixed on a tripod and be set up in the designated area within the hearing room. It must be in place prior to the hearing being called into

- session and must not be removed from the tripod at any time during the hearing. The camera may be removed during a break in the proceedings.
5. The commissioner will allow only one still camera to be set up in the designated area. The photographer must be in the designated area prior to the hearing being called into session and shall not leave the area until there is a break in the proceeding. Media will have to arrange a pool system for the sharing of photos.
 6. All media are asked to set up their equipment in the designated area prior to the start of the Inquiry Hearings between the times of 8:30 am and 9:15 am.
 7. Media must not place microphones or tape recorders at the witness box, counsel tables, and clerk's table or on the Commissioner's dais.
 8. Cell phones and pagers must be turned off when entering the hearing room.
 9. Once an exhibit has been entered & filed, commission staff will place a copy of the exhibit on the media exhibit table. This copy must remain on the table and media may view the exhibit only at that table. No exhibit copy may be removed from the hearing room. Subject to rulings of the commissioner, exhibits and transcripts available in electronic format will be posted at www.tamaninquiry.ca.
 10. Scrum will not be permitted in the hearing room.
 11. Chief Administrative Officer Bob Giasson acts as the media relations officer for the Commission. All requests for interviews with commission counsel should be directed to him. All inquiries about any other matter before the Commission must be directed to him.