CR 02300

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN CON

- and -

## GOO KINGWATSIAK

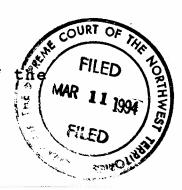
Transcript of Sentencing given by The Honourable Mr. Justice J.E. Richard, at Cape Dorset, Northwest Territories, on the 12th day of February A.D. 1994

## APPEARANCES:

S.A. Couper, Esq., C. Rehn, Esq., Cheryl Mendryk, Ms., Court Reporter

Appeared for the Crown Appeared for the Defence

(Charged under Section 3 of Narcotic Control Act)



THE COURT: Mr. Kingwatsiak, come forward first, please. Take a seat, sir.

This offender, Goo Kingwatsiak, who is 38 years of age, has pleaded guilty to possession of a narcotic, contrary to Section 3 of the Narcotics Control Act.

He was arrested by the RCMP upon his return to Cape Dorset from Iqaluit in January 1993. He was found to have two pieces of hashish in his jacket, the two pieces weighing a total of 29 grams or approximately 1 ounce. He told the police that he had purchased it in Iqaluit for \$600.

Mr. Kingwatsiak is a life-long resident of this community. As a young man, he was in constant conflict with the law and was sentenced to jail on numerous occasions. All of that is a long time ago. He does not have any previous convictions for narcotics offences.

Mr. Kingwatsiak is currently unemployed and has been unable to find work for the past two years. He is separated from his common-law spouse and is currently responsible as a single parent for the care of his two children, ages 5 and 7.

One pauses to wonder what kind of example Mr. Kingwatsiak feels that he is providing in the eyes of his young children by engaging in the unlawful

use of narcotics and by spending \$600 of the family's limited resources in this manner.

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Everyone in this courtroom, including Mr.

Kingwatsiak, Mr. Petaulassie, are aware of the serious problem of drug abuse in this community among the young people. And one would have thought that Mr. Kingwatsiak, at his age, would have given serious consideration to the consequences to his family of engaging in this illegal activity and of engaging in the lifestyle of drug abuse that is prevalent among the young people in this community.

The usual sentence for this offence, where there has been no prior related convictions, is a substantial fine. Although Mr. Kingwatsiak is not employed at the present time, I'm told that he will be able to work off the fine under the Fine Options Program that exists in this community. So I propose to assess a fine in this instance.

Before doing so, I wish to note for the record that this appears to be a straight-forward case. However, it has taken over 13 months to come to the disposition stage. And I would ask that counsel, whomever counsel on either side who handled the file in the past 13 months, reflect on how they might have otherwise conducted the file so that this matter could have been disposed of a

long time ago in Territorial Court or in Supreme
Court so that this matter could be long behind Mr.
Kingwatsiak and he could get on with his life.
Any disposition or sentence is more meaningful and real justice is done when the matter is disposed of closer to the time of the event.

Please stand now, Mr. Kingwatsiak. Mr. Kingwatsiak, for the crime that you have committed, it is the sentence of this Court that you pay a fine in the amount of \$2,300. I'm going to give you four months within which to pay the fine, and in default of payment, two months imprisonment. And in view of your personal circumstances, I am declining to impose any Victim Crime Surcharge. Thank you, sir, you can take a seat in the courtroom for the time being.

THE ACCUSED: Thank you.

MR. COUPER: My Lord, if I might speak

before we leave Mr. Kingwatsiak's case. I wonder

if the Court could grant the usual order with

regard to disposition of exhibits.

THE COURT: Any difficulty with that, Mr.

23 Rehn?

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MR. REHN: No, sir.

25 THE COURT: In the matter of Goo

Kingwatsiak, the usual order will go regarding the destruction of the narcotic exhibits and disposal

1	of the other exhibits in the usual fashion upon
2	the expiration of the appeal period.
3	(SENTENCING HEARING CONCLUDED)
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5	I, Cheryl Mendryk, C.S.R.(A), hereby certify
6	that I attended the above Sentencing Hearing and
7	took faithful and accurate shorthand notes and the
8	foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of my
9	shorthand notes to the best of my skill and
10	ability.
11	Dated at the City of Calgary, Province of
12	Alberta, this 19th day of February, A.D. 1994.
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14	(1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1)
15	Cheryl Mendryk, Ms.
16	Court Reporter.
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