

## Patrick Perna Fined \$22,500 For Pesticide Act Violation

**PORT HOPE** – On October 1, 2009, Patrick Perna was fined \$22,500 plus a victim fine surcharge, after pleading guilty to discharging a pesticide into the environment which caused or was likely to cause impairment of the quality of the environment, contrary to the Pesticides Act. Mr. Perna was given 60 days to pay the fine.

The Court heard that Mr. Perna was employed as a seasonal pesticides technician for a large pesticide operator in Ontario. On October 26, 2006, the Ministry of the Environment's District Office in Kingston was notified of an incident at a residential property on Bagot Street in Cobourg, where a pesticide, Par III, had drifted off-site. A pedestrian who happened to be walking by at the time, developed a burning sensation in her chest that lasted for three to four weeks. The pedestrian also suffered from multiple chemical sensitivities and had a past history of tuberculosis. The pedestrian's symptoms may have been directly related to the pesticide exposure.

Mr. Perna was charged following an investigation by the Ministry of the Environment's Investigations and Enforcement Branch.

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For further information:

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