

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE MONIQUE MÉTIVIER  
SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

COURT HOUSE  
161 ELGIN STREET  
OTTAWA, ONTARIO K2P 2K1



L'HONORABLE JUGE MONIQUE MÉTIVIER  
COUR SUPÉRIEURE DE JUSTICE

PALAIS DE JUSTICE  
161, RUE ELGIN  
OTTAWA (ONTARIO) K2P.2K1

August 21, 2008

Mr. Chris G. Paliare  
Paliare, Roland, Rosenberg, Rothstein LLP  
250 University Avenue, Suite 501  
Toronto, ON M5H 3E5

**Re: Inquiry Committee regarding The Honourable  
Mr. Justice Paul Cosgrove**

Dear Mr. Paliare:

You have asked me to provide you with a letter setting out my views on Justice Cosgrove's character in respect of his integrity, fairness and competence based on my knowledge of and dealings with him.

As a colleague, I have always found him to be a true gentleman, extremely courteous and always collegially helpful and pleasant.

With respect to his current difficulties, I am reminded that I had a trial that went for several weeks in Brockville during the early days of the Elliott trial and he and I frequently had lunch together during that time. I remember his explanation that he had attempted to resist the assignment as he was a neighbour of the Crown Attorney and wanted to maintain a pleasant relationship with him. I also remember clearly that some of the details that came out about the police in particular and their actions were quite shocking. As I remember, the defence at that time was looking to have him recuse himself because he was too pro-Crown.

I also had the opportunity to oversee his work while I was Regional Senior Justice. He demonstrated integrity in all of his dealings with the Court, his colleagues and his work.

In March of 2004 we had received the instructions of the Chief Justice that he was to have no further sitting assignments. Justice Cosgrove felt very bad about this as he realized that our region was extremely pressed by the shortage of judicial resources and our Family Court was in crisis. He asked to be allowed to assist in some way. In approximately February 2005 Chief Justice Smith advised that he could assist by doing non-adjudicative work. Since then and until the end of my tenure as Regional Senior Justice in May of 2008, he was assigned family case conferences and settlement conferences as well as civil pre-trials. During that time I found Justice Cosgrove willing to work anywhere, anytime. He knew we needed help and he wanted to assist as much as possible.



His keen and sincere interest in the administration of justice was demonstrated by his long-standing involvement in Law Day in Brockville where he has earned the appreciation of teachers and students for the yearly mock trials he has organized. When the Brockville Courthouse was being renovated and expanded, Justice Cosgrove was at the forefront of the planning, working co-operatively with all involved.

I am aware that lawyers may find him short, impatient, opinionated and sometimes arrogant but I am also aware that those complaints are made about certain other judges. To the best of my knowledge, he is competent and I have been personally aware that during my tenure, he has frequently attended educational seminars particularly in family law, the area where he has recently worked most extensively. I might also point out that while lawyers may complain about his treatment of them, I have heard numerous reports that he is exceptionally kind and helpful with self-represented litigants.

I trust this meets your requirements.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Monique Métiévier'.

The Honourable Madam Justice M. Métiévier

MM:dmo