

R. v. Sponaule, Provincial Court, British Columbia, February 10th, 2006

Mr. Sponaule plead guilty to various counts of possession of counterfeit money. He was involved with 5 other individuals in the passing of Canadian and U.S. counterfeit currency in a number of businesses in the Kamloops area. He was not involved in the production of counterfeit money. Approximately \$6,000.00 worth of counterfeit money was put in circulation. The Bank of Canada provided an affidavit for the sentence which was quoted in the sentence.

Mr. Sponaule was 53 at the time of the sentencing hearing, had a lengthy criminal record and was experiencing considerable health challenges. The Court considered the unsophisticated nature of the scheme as a mitigating factor.

The court adopted the joint recommendation for a sentence of 2 years of imprisonment. The judge concluded that: "It is the type of crime that invites a severe sentence, based upon the emphasis on deterrence, that the crime is economically motivated and requires considerable premeditation."