

Appeal trial for Toronto cop convicted in Yatim death begins Monday

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(Left) Toronto police Const. James Forcillo arrives at court in the shooting death of Sammy Yatim, on Jan. 6, 2016. THE CANADIAN PRESS/Nathan Denette. (Right) Sammy Yatim, 18, pictured in a Facebook photo.



An appeal trial for Const. James Forcillo, the Toronto police officer convicted of attempted murder in the fatal shooting of Sammy Yatim, began Monday.

Forcillo fired his glock handgun nine times in two separate volleys of bullets at Yatim, 18, on a streetcar in July of 2013.

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The trial is taking place at the Ontario Court of Appeal in downtown Toronto.

CityNews court reporter Marianne Boucher is covering the trial. Read her updates below:

His bail conditions were scheduled to expire on Sunday, but have been extended until as late as April 2, 2018, when he must surrender himself.

Forcillo has been out on bail since his conviction in January 2016.

He was sentenced to six years, a year more than the mandatory minimum. However, lawyers representing Forcillo are expected to argue that his conviction for attempted murder is illogical and his sentence of six years is cruel and unusual. They will then ask that his conviction be quashed and a new trial ordered.

Sammy Yatim's mother, Sahar Bahadi, spoke to the media before heading into court Monday. Watch below.

During Forcillo's trial the court heard from witnesses who said Yatim pulled out a knife while riding the busy streetcar, terrifying passengers. Videos of the incident and subsequent police shooting were played in court.

Jurors ultimately found that Forcillo was justified in firing the first volley of shots which felled Yatim, acquitting him of the more serious charge of second-degree murder.