

**IN THE PROVINCIAL COURT OF NOVA SCOTIA**

**Citation:** R. v. Redden, 2005 NSPC 64

**Date:** 20050617

**Docket:** 1213202

**Registry:** Kentville

**Between:**

Her Majesty the Queen

v.

Jeffrey Ian Redden

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**LIBRARY HEADING**

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**Judge:** The Honourable Judge Alan T. Tufts

**Heard:** June 13, 14, 15, 2005, in Windsor, Nova Scotia

**Subject:** **Criminal Negligence (causing bodily harm)**  
**Shaken Baby Syndrome**

**Summary:** **Allegation that accused caused bodily harm to his ten week old step-son by shaking him “hard” in what defence described as an effort to resuscitate the child after an apparent fall from a chair while in the care of the accused. Expert evidence was provided that indicated the baby may have experienced a “breath holding event” which caused the accused to believe that the baby had stopped breathing.**

**Issue:** **Did the accused act with a wanton or reckless disregard for this baby's safety. Were his actions a marked and significant departure from what could be expected of a reasonable person in the same circumstances such that it constituted criminal negligence.**

**Result:**

**Concluded that the accused's actions were reactive, sudden and responsive to what he determined was an urgent situation. Actions were all consistent with reviving the baby. Accused found not guilty.**

***THIS INFORMATION SHEET DOES NOT FORM PART OF THE COURT'S DECISION.  
QUOTES MUST BE FROM THE DECISION, NOT THIS LIBRARY SHEET.***