



## **Police shocked at media tactics in relation to mother and baby death**

Posted on 24th May 2012 07:46



**Waikato Police, acting on behalf of the Coroner and in support of the family in relation to the death of a young mother and her new born baby, are pleading with media to show some compassion as reporters take to interviewing children in the hunt for a news story.**

**Hamilton shift manager Senior Sergeant Mike Underwood says he had been in contact with the understandably distraught family in relation to the matters.**

“The child died in Waikato overnight, if that wasn’t devastating enough one television news broadcaster and a newspaper published the child’s death while the boy was still alive.

“The family have expressed their concerns that they are being used as pawns by media outlets intent on scooping their rivals while they are trying to work their way through a double tragedy and a natural grieving process.

“They have asked that their privacy be respected.”

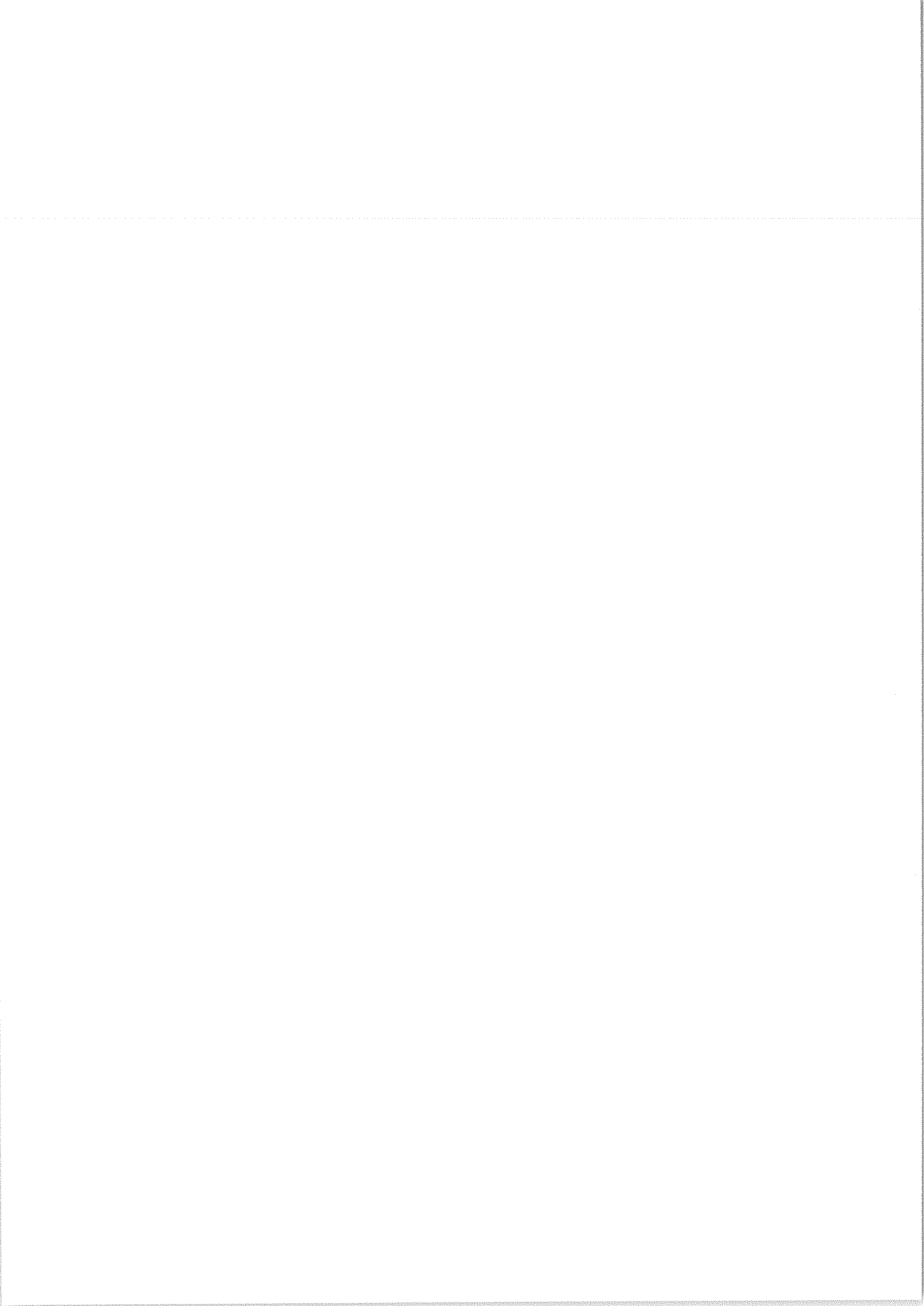
With the death of the baby being reported to the Coroner, Mike says a post mortem examination would be conducted in Wellington today.

His death follows that of his mother, 20-year-old Casey Missy Turama Nathan, who died at Waikato Hospital on Monday following complications during child birth.

“Police involvement in the death of the boy and his mother is on behalf of the Waikato Coroner and is in line with our attendance in all deaths of this nature.

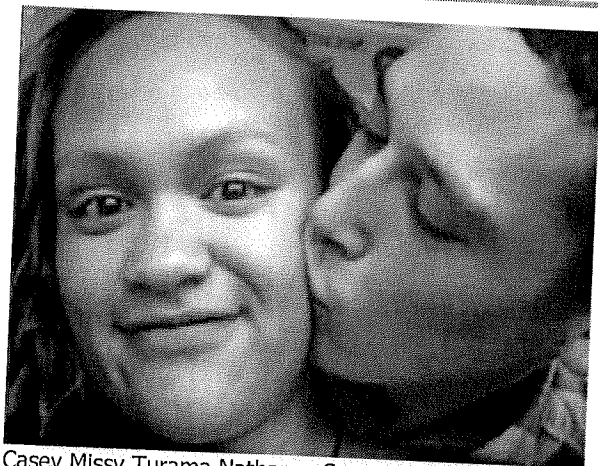
“Comments on the cause of death of either person at this time would be inappropriate and it is for the Coroner to establish this in due course. At this time we would ask, for the sake of the grieving family, that their privacy be respected and they be allowed to grieve in dignity.”

**Source: Waikato Police.**



## Family and friends pay tribute to young mum

Published: 5:29AM Thursday May 24, 2012 Source: Fairfax



Casey Missy Turama Nathan. - Source: Fairfax

The father of a young woman who died after giving birth earlier this week has paid tribute to his "loving" daughter in front of her grieving family and friends.

Casey Missy Turama Nathan, 20, died at Waikato Hospital on Monday night - six hours after giving birth at Huntly Birthcare. Her baby son, understood to be named Kymani, died yesterday at Waikato Hospital where he had been in critical condition in intensive care.

News of Kymani's death was delivered to his grandfather, Caz Nathan, at Waingarō Marae last night as he spoke openly about the daughter he was not meant to outlive.

"It should never have happened, it should have been me who went before her," he said.

Nathan went into labour at home on Sunday and arrived with her partner, Hayden Tukiri, at Huntly Birthcare about 1am on Monday morning.

The boy was understood to have been born with breathing difficulties about 11am, soon after Nathan became seriously unwell.

An ambulance was called and both mother and baby were taken to Waikato Hospital where, despite the best efforts of hospital staff, Nathan died about 5pm.

Her baby son was placed on life support but died yesterday evening.

Nathan's midwife had less than 18 months experience having graduated at the end of 2010.

Her family is now questioning whether that was a factor in their "loving" girl's death.

"We are talking about inadequate supervision of a recent graduate to midwifery...we have seen the recent reporting of something similar in Hamilton - we want to prevent this, we don't want this to happen to anyone else - it has to stop here," said Nathan's uncle Tem Ormsby.

"Our hearts and our sentiments go out to the birthing centre - but we are grieving too."

Nathan's partner Hayden Tukiri is said to be "devastated" by the loss of his partner and baby son.

His grandmother, Lia Broughton, said the family was now waiting for the outcome of an autopsy to find the cause of Nathan's death.

"But for now we are all in the dark - it certainly didn't seem like a difficult labour," Broughton said.

"But that's not to say she didn't have a pre-existing medical condition that we didn't know about - that's what we need to find out."

Nathan's final Facebook post on May 16 clearly illustrated how excited the expectant mum was about the birth of her first baby.

"O.M.G 3 Days left to go B4 i have baby - YAY" it stated, followed by a series of posts from friends and family wishing Nathan well.

Last night her father paid tribute to the daughter who loved life and loved people.

"Casey was a very strong person, a people's person, she just loved people," he said.

"Just look at the people coming onto our marae here - they come in droves - not just one or two," he said.

Nathan said the family gathered on Tuesday night to "speak about what we need to deal with now and leave other stuff for later".

"Let's celebrate Casey's life and support each other, but also know in the back of our minds that there will be answers through the coroners report and [other] action."

Hospital spokesperson Mary Anne Gill said "our condolences go to the family."

The Hamilton father of a baby boy that died in 2009 is urging the family of Casey Nathan to request all medical records relating to her labour and subsequent death.

Robert Barlow, whose son Adam died after a botched birth, said it was only after the family conducted its own investigation including requesting clinical notes - that they were able to find answers.

In offering his "sincere condolences", Barlow said he hoped he would find the answers "to help make sense of the immense devastation that his family is going through".

"My heart goes out to Hayden and his family, and I hope they know that I am here if they need anything at this time for emotional support," he said.

Officer in charge of the Waikato coronial investigative team, detective sergeant Michele Moore, confirmed that a post-mortem examination on Nathan's body had been conducted and police were now awaiting the results.

Action to Improve Maternity spokeswoman Jenn Hooper said her thoughts were with Nathan's family.

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## NATIONAL

### Birth tragedy takes mum and son

MARYANNE TWENTYMAN AND JONATHAN CARSON Last updated 05:00 24/05/2012

A coroner has launched an investigation into how things went so wrong for first-time mother Casey Nathan as her grieving family mourns the end of two short lives.

Casey Missy Turama Nathan, 20, died at Waikato Hospital on Monday night – six hours after giving birth at Huntly Birthcare. Her baby son, understood to be named Kymani, died yesterday at Waikato Hospital where he had been in critical condition in intensive care.

News of Kymani's death was delivered to his grandfather, Caz Nathan, at Waingaro Marae at 5pm last night as he spoke openly about the daughter he was not meant to outlive.

"It should never have happened, it should have been me who went before her," he said.

Ms Nathan went into labour at home on Sunday and arrived with her partner, Hayden Tukiri, at Huntly Birthcare about 1am on Monday morning.

It is understood that the boy was born with breathing difficulties about 11am, soon after Ms Nathan became seriously unwell.

An ambulance was called and both mother and baby were taken to Waikato Hospital where, despite the best efforts of hospital staff, Ms Nathan died about 5pm. Her baby son was placed on life support but died yesterday evening.

Ms Nathan's midwife had less than 18 months experience having graduated at the end of 2010. Her family is now questioning whether that was a factor in their "loving" girl's death.

"We are talking about inadequate supervision of a recent graduate to midwifery...we have seen the recent reporting of something similar in Hamilton - we want to prevent this, we don't want this to happen to anyone else - it has to stop here," said Ms Nathan's uncle Tem Ormsby.

"Our hearts and our sentiments go out to the birthing centre - but we are grieving too."

Ms Nathan's partner Hayden Tukiri is said to be "devastated" by the loss of his partner and baby son.

His grandmother, Lia Broughton, said the family was now waiting for the outcome of an autopsy to find the cause of Ms Nathan's death.

"But for now we are all in the dark - it certainly didn't seem like a difficult labour," Mrs Broughton said.

"But that's not to say she didn't have a pre-existing medical condition that we didn't know about - that's what we need to find out."

Ms Nathan's final Facebook post on May 16 clearly illustrated how excited the expectant mum was about the birth of her first baby.

"O.M.G 3 Days left to go B4 I have baby - YAY" it stated, followed by a series of posts from friends and family wishing Ms Nathan well.

Last night her father paid tribute to the daughter who loved life and loved people.

"Casey was a very strong person, a people's person, she just loved people," he said.

"Just look at the people coming onto our marae here - they come in droves - not just one or two," he said.

Mr Nathan said the family gathered on Tuesday night to "speak about what we need to deal with now and leave other stuff for later".

"Let's celebrate Casey's life and support each other, but also know in the back of our minds that there will be answers through the coroners report and [other] action."

Hospital spokesperson Mary Anne Gill said "our condolences go to the family."

The Hamilton father of a baby boy that died in 2009 is urging the family of Casey Nathan to request all medical records relating to her labour and subsequent death.

Robert Barlow, whose son Adam died after a botched birth, said it was only after the family conducted it's own investigation - including requesting clinical notes -- that they were able to find answers.

In offering his "sincere condolences", Mr Barlow said he hoped he would find the answers "to help make sense of the immense devastation that his family is going through".

"My heart goes out to Hayden and his family, and I hope they know that I am here if they need anything at this time for emotional support," he said.

Officer in charge of the Waikato coronial investigative team, Detective Sergeant Michele Moore, confirmed

that a post-mortem examination on Ms Nathan's body had been conducted and Police were now awaiting the results.

Action to Improve Maternity spokeswoman Jenn Hooper said her thoughts were with Ms Nathan's family.

#### FAMILY UNITED IN GRIEF

All is still at Waingaro Marae.

A handful of whanau and friends sit on a fence outside to the right, Caz Nathan shuffles on the gravel to the left. There is no wailing or waiata – just quiet.

It is laughter, of all things, that breaks the silence as a group of kids play on the grass.

Mr Nathan sits down on a fence, then stands up again.

He's dressed in black – black shades to hide the grief, and a leather trenchcoat that reaches down to his unsettled feet.

His daughter, Casey Missy Turama Nathan, is dead; her body lies in a box inside the marae, west of Ngaruawahia. She died after giving birth to her first child on Monday night.

As he tries to comprehend one loss, he gets word of another.

"I'm sorry guys, we just lost baby," a family member says.

Mr Nathan's eyes start to water, he shuffles and turns to walk away.

"See – there you go," he says, his voice rising. "That's two losses now. He'll be coming over here, too, with his mother.

"That's sad, man." His son, Samuel, lets out a burst of air as though it's been physically knocked out of him and starts to cry.

He says he knew baby wasn't going to make it, and that's why he forced hospital staff to let him see his nephew on Tuesday.

He says the family has been ripped apart by his sister's death, and now, two days later, they're dealing with another. In the space of minutes Samuel wavers between grief and anger.

His sister is dead, his nephew is dead, and "we haven't got no answers".

The tragedy affected him so deeply that he slept outside the morgue where his sister's body lay for two nights.

Yesterday evening, the grieving family prepared to head back to the hospital, and as the sun went down on Waingaro Marae, it was quiet once more.

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## Dad's shock after partner and baby die

By [Natalie Akoorie](#)

**5:30 AM** Thursday May 24, 2012

A young father's life is in tatters after his partner died following the birth of their son, who last night also died in hospital.

Hayden Tukiri watched in horror as his partner Casey Missy Turama Nathan, 20, went from an excited mother-to-be in labour to being whisked by ambulance to Waikato Hospital suffering complications.

Their baby boy, who had been a healthy full-term baby before the labour, was deprived of oxygen during the birth and rushed ahead of the pair to the Newborn Intensive Care Unit.

Last night Mr Tukiri and his family were called back to the NICU because the infant's condition was deteriorating.

Kymani Casey Nathan-Tukiri suffered heart, liver, kidney and brain damage during the birth.

Mr Tukiri was too distraught to speak to the *Herald* but a family member said the teenager was only just coping with the tragedy.

"He's sort of coping. He's in shock. Hayden has to deal with everything."

The 18-year-old was at Birthcare Huntly on Monday with his girlfriend of three years as she endured a 10-hour labour.

"As far as we know the labour was going fine until the very end," the family member said.

The woman, who did not want to be named, said it was unclear what the complications were but the family were unaware of any pre-existing medical conditions.

"We're only guessing as to what happened. She was a healthy normal young mum-to-be. She really looked great but they didn't know if she had something hidden."

After the delivery at 11am Miss Nathan, who was worried about her baby, was taken to Waikato Hospital.

She had been conscious but died there several hours later.

Only a week ago Miss Nathan posted on her Facebook page: "O.M.G 3 Days left to go B4 i have baby YAY".

The family member said both she and Mr Tukiri were eagerly awaiting the arrival of their first child.

"They both had it plastered all over Facebook. They both were so excited."



Casey Nathan and Hayden Tukiri had posted on Facebook of their excitement at expecting their first child. Photo / Supplied

Birthcare Huntly general manager Ann Henson said nothing like this had happened before at the centre, established in 1995 and operated by Birthcare Auckland.

"It is tragic and our sympathies go to the family."

She said staff were preparing a report on the labour for Coroner Gordon Matenga and she could not say any more.

Detective Sergeant Michele Moore of the Waikato Coronial Investigative Team said police were awaiting the results of a post-mortem examination but that the case was now before the Coroner.

She said police involvement in the case was standard.

"No conclusions in relation to the nature of death should be drawn by routine inquiries of this nature."

The Herald understands Miss Nathan was the youngest of four children.

Her Facebook page lists her as a past pupil of Ngaruawahia High School but as living in Hamilton.

Her family were unable to be contacted for comment last night but it is believed they were making arrangements for Miss Nathan's tangi in Waingaro. Her funeral would take place tomorrow.

Hamilton man Robert Barlow, whose son Adam died during a botched birth in October 2009 and wife Linda almost died, offered sincere condolences to the family.

"It's different circumstances but it's mirrored to the circumstances I was in. Our hearts go out to the family."

By [Natalie Akoorie](#)

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