

NEWS RELEASE



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JACKSON TOWNSHIP WOMAN INDICTED FOR STEALING APPROXIMATELY \$98,849.65 FROM HER ELDERLY FATHER

On July 19, 2010, a Monmouth County Grand Jury returned an indictment charging Lorie Langridge, 47, of Jackson Township, N.J., with second degree Theft. The charge relates to Langridge's theft of approximately \$98,849.65 in life insurance and pension benefits from her father.

The indictment follows a joint investigation which was conducted by the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office and the Wall Township Police Department. The investigation began in December 2009 when a family member of Langridge reported to the Wall Township Police Department that Langridge had unlawfully taken and deposited two checks belonging to her father. The two checks were issued following the death of Langridge's mother in May 2009 and contained the proceeds of retirement and pension plans naming Langridge's father as beneficiary.

The joint investigation revealed that in January 2006, Langridge's father, now age 84, was admitted to a nursing facility in Wall Township. Langridge's father was entitled to and received benefits under Medicaid as an institutionalized patient. Langridge continued to live with her mother at the family residence in Wall. Langridge's mother had Power of Attorney over Langridge's father's affairs. Langridge had a secondary Power of Attorney. Upon Langridge's mother's death, Langridge became the primary Power of Attorney. In August 2009, two death benefit checks were issued to Langridge's father and mailed to the Wall residence where Langridge was residing. The first check, valued at \$66,300, consisted of the proceeds of a life insurance policy on which Langridge's father was the beneficiary. The second check, valued at \$32,549.65, contained pension system funds for which Langridge's father also was the beneficiary. The proceeds of both checks were at all times the property of Langridge's father, and by law were required to be

forwarded to his nursing facility. Medicaid rules and regulations require that any assets belonging to Medicaid recipients be provided to the health care facility and used to offset the healthcare and housing expenses of the intended recipient.

The investigation revealed that after Langridge came into possession of both checks she utilized the funds for her own personal uses rather than provide them to the nursing home facility which was caring for her father. The checks were both deposited into a bank account which was established by Langridge in August 2009, and they were the only deposits ever made into the account. Withdrawal records from that account revealed that Langridge used \$68,175 of her father's money to purchase a mobile home which was located in Jackson Township, N.J. Langridge also transferred \$21,452.17 to another personal bank account in her name which she then utilized for personal expenses.

Langridge was arrested by Detectives from the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office and the Wall Township Police Department on April 22, 2010. Following her arrest, Monmouth County Assignment Judge Lawrence M. Lawson set Langridge's bail at \$50,000. Langridge posted bail and was released from the Monmouth County Correctional Institution on April 23, 2010.

If convicted of second degree Theft, the maximum potential custodial sentence is a State Prison term of up to 10 years.

Despite these charges, every defendant is presumed innocent, unless and until found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, following a trial at which the defendant has all of the trial rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and State law.

The case is assigned to Assistant Monmouth County Prosecutor Nicole Colucci. Langridge is represented by Gregory V. Sharkey, Esquire, of Lakewood, N.J.

Released: July 19, 2010