



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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## *Press Release*

### Brockton couple indicted in 5-year elder/disabled abuse scam

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A 35-year old Brockton woman employed as a caretaker for an elderly Sharon father and his disabled daughter were indicted Thursday (Feb. 27, 2014) and arrested the next day, accused of stealing over \$130,000 from them over a 5-year span. They pled not guilty at their arraignment Monday, March 3, 2014.

"Some of the conduct alleged in the indictments dates back to 2009," District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey said after the indictments became public. "This has been an extensive and time-intensive grand jury investigation by Assistant District Attorney Greg Connor, chief of white collar prosecution in my office, and the Sharon Police Department – particularly Det. Kevin Bishop. Det. Bishop's work has been excellent."

As a result, the Norfolk County Grand Jury indicted Prisca Halaby, 35, of 50 Westglow Rd, Brockton, for five counts of Larceny of Property valued at over \$250, by single scheme, from a person over the age of 60 or disabled; 2 counts of Credit Card Fraud; 3 counts of Identity Fraud.

Her husband, Dominique Halaby, age 45, also of 50 Westglow Rd, was indicted for Larceny of Property valued at over \$250 by single scheme, from a person over the age of 60 or disabled

Det. Bishop and Det. Scott Leonard went to the Halaby residence Friday with a Norfolk Superior Court indictment warrant accompanied by Brockton Police. The couple was arrested and transported to the Sharon Police Department. Bail was set at \$250,000 over the weekend, but the couple did not post bail.

The couple pled not guilty at their Norfolk Superior Court arraignment at 2:30 p.m. on March 3, 2014. Assistant District Attorney Greg Connor requested that each defendant be held on \$100,000 cash bail, arguing that most of the money allegedly stolen has not been located by police and that the couple has some reported ties to the nation of Haiti.

Judge Thomas A. Connors ordered \$30,000 cash bail on Prisca and \$15,000 on Dominique Halaby, further ordering that they stay away from and have no contact with the named victims in the case and that Prisca not be employed as a home health aide while free on bail.

The couple was ordered to return to Norfolk Superior Court for pre-trial conference on April 1. The maximum penalty on the lead charge for each defendant is 10 years in State Prison.

*Morrissey noted that, as with all defendants, the Halaby's enjoy the Constitutional presumption of their innocence until proven guilty.*