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# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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## Press Release

### State Prison for Milton Man in Clergy Blackmail Case

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The Milton man accused of extorting almost a half-million dollars from a Sharon clergyman over almost three years has pled guilty to all eleven indictments against him and sent to State Prison, according to Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey.

Nicholas Zemeitus, 31, of Nancy Road in Milton, admitted to extorting and otherwise stealing over \$480,000 – including 150 separate instances of emailed demands and blackmail. He pled guilty to extortion by threat, seven counts of (grand) larceny over \$250, one count of larceny under \$250 and two counts of receiving stolen property valued at over \$250 before Norfolk Superior Court Judge Beverly Cannone on Nov. 12, 2015.

He was sentenced on December 18, 2015 by Judge Cannone.

“We requested six to eight years in State Prison in this case, which is arguably an upwards departure from the sentencing guidelines. We believed that given the length and tenor of the extortion, that kind of departure was warranted,” District Attorney Morrissey said. “The court imposed the substantial sentence of 4 to 5 years in State Prison.”

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Greg Connor, who serves as Morrissey’s white collar and financial crimes chief.

Subsequent to the plea and sentencing, the Commonwealth withdrew the charges against his wife, and co-defendant on multiple charges, Alexa Anderson by way of filing a nolle prosequi. That document, filed in Norfolk Superior Court, makes clear that in changing his plea, Zemeitus took responsibility for all of the conduct charged in the case.

*It is important to note that Zemeitus’ admission of guilt in no way impinges on the Constitutional presumption of innocence of others under indictment for actions associated with the extortion.*