



MILWAUKIE
Dogwood City of the West

March 25, 2010
Milwaukie Police Department
Bob Jordan, Chief of Police
Officer Ulli Neitch, PIO
503-545-3933

Case # 09-3242

85-year-old a victim of Aggravated Theft, Criminal Mistreatment – adult daughter arrested

On March 25, 2010, after an extensive criminal investigation that began in September 2009, Milwaukie Police detectives arrested Janet Gay Durkee (03-29-48) on felony charges of Aggravated Theft I, and Criminal Mistreatment I.

Janet Durkee was arrested for systematically taking more than \$224,000 over a five month period from her 85-year-old mother's bank accounts, leaving the elder destitute. The victim of these crimes is 85-year-old Geneva E. Smith who resides in Milwaukie.

Milwaukie Police received a referral from Adult Protective Services, a component of Oregon Department of Human Services. Upon contacting the elderly victim, it was determined she was a crime victim. Milwaukie Police Detectives completed an extensive investigation, including a search warrant of properties in La Pine, Oregon. It was discovered the elderly victim had been bilked of her life's savings, and a large sum of property.

Durkee's alleged exploitation of Geneva Smith's finances began after the 85-year-old victim had sustained serious injuries in a fall and was no longer able to care for herself.

Detectives arrested Janet Gay Durkee at the Clackamas County Court House in Oregon City. There was probable cause to arrest Durkee for the criminal charges of Criminal Mistreatment I and Aggravated Theft I.

“Not only as a police agency, but also as a community, we have a responsibility to ensure the safety and well-being of people most vulnerable to financial exploitation, and other abuses,” said Milwaukie Public Information Officer Ulli Neitch.

During the 75th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2009 Regular Session, House Bill 2442 established broader mandatory reporting requirements to better serve elderly adults and adults with developmental disabilities.

This House Bill measure expands Department of Human Services and law enforcement agency investigation requirements. For more information related to House Bill 2442-B, go to: www.leg.state.or.us

(The victim is residing in an assisted living home in Milwaukie. Due to her age, medical conditions, and living situation, Mrs. Smith hopes the media will honor her request that she not be contacted at this time.)



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