

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Michael T. Dougherty, District Attorney

Press Release

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Marina Scotti pled guilty to Exploitation of an At-Risk Elder over \$500, a class three felony. She was sentenced to 6 years in the Department of Corrections, credit for 108 days, plus 5 years of mandatory parole.

The defendant ran a company, based in Florida, called Publications Marketing that solicited magazine subscriptions. From 2015 through 2017, Ms. Scotti called the victim in this case, Margaret "Peggy" Iden, to solicit money for magazine subscriptions. The victim is over 90 years old, suffers from dementia, and now lives in a memory-care facility. At the time, the victim lived by herself in her home.

The victim felt threatened by some of the defendant's phone calls and thought she would be in trouble if she didn't send the money. She sent several checks to the defendant and made some credit card payments to the defendant, totaling over \$20,000, for "magazine subscriptions". The victim never received the over \$20,000 worth of magazine subscriptions. Fortunately, the victim had neighbors, friends, and bank employees who knew her. They intervened on the victim's behalf and a friend filed a police report.

The Boulder County Sheriff's Office conducted a very thorough and effective investigation.

The victim had been a Vice Principal at Casey Junior High, a Principal at Platte Junior High and retired in the late 90's as Vice Principal at Southern Hills Middle School.

The Court sentenced the defendant to six years in state prison, plus 5 years of mandatory parole.

District Attorney Michael Dougherty stated, "This defendant preyed upon the victim and stole her money, her pride, and her sense of security. The victim had a successful career and a very positive impact on our Boulder community; the defendant was able to take advantage of her due to her medical issues. Thankfully, the victim's friends intervened on her behalf and contacted the police. Securing justice for the most vulnerable victims is an absolute priority for the District Attorney's Office and a sentence to state prison is the just outcome."