



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## NORFOLK DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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## Press Release

### Not guilty plea in Needham, Millis stabbings

#### *Family issues statement*

Contact: D. Traub, 781-830-4917

A 24-year old Needham man entered pleas of not guilty to the murder of his girlfriend, and additional charges related to the stabbing of his parents, at a bedside arraignment held at Milford Regional Medical Center today (February 12, 2018), according to Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey.

Benjamin E. Walsh, 24, of 64 Marshall St., Needham, Mass., was ordered held without bail on the charge of murdering Olivia Bergstrom, who was 20. He was ordered returned to the Dedham District Court March 15, 2018 on that charge.

Judge Steven Thomas ordered Walsh held on \$500,000 cash bail on the separate docket involving the Feb. 10, 2018 stabbings at the Primavera restaurant in Millis, Mass. Those charges are two counts of Armed Assault with Intent to Murder, two counts of Assault and Battery with a Dangerous Weapon and one count of resisting arrest. Judge Thomas ordered Walsh be returned to the Wrentham District Court on March 14, 2018 for a probable cause hearing on those five counts.

Walsh was taken into custody at the Millis restaurant where the attack is alleged to have taken place. A well-being check on Ms. Bergstrom subsequent to his arrest revealed her homicide.

Mr. Walsh was represented by Attorney Randall Power. Assistant District Attorney Lisa Beatty handled the matter for the Commonwealth.

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#### **The family, through Olivia Bergstrom's grandfather Paul Bergstrom, has asked the NDAO to transmit the following statement:**

"Devastated does not even begin to describe how we feel about losing our Olivia. Olivia was a smart, vibrant, beautiful young woman with a bright future ahead of her. She was a beloved daughter, sister, granddaughter, niece, and friend. Olivia was a lover of animals who never met a horse she couldn't win over. She was passionate about living a healthy life. She had a dog named Scarlett. She loved her family fiercely.

"Our hearts are broken at the thought of Olivia not being in our lives, taken from us and her future in a way we cannot comprehend. We know her spirit remains with us and we will do everything in our power to keep her memory alive and celebrate the short time we had the privilege of having her in our lives. We ask for our privacy and your respect at this time as our family begins the long journey of rebuilding our lives." – Paul Bergstrom, grandfather.

*All defendants enjoy the Constitutional presumption of innocence unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.*