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Press Release

Not guilty plea in the murder Of elderly Needham woman

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A neighbor of the Needham woman found dead in her elderly housing apartment May 31 pled not guilty to her murder in Dedham District Court today (June 30, 2017) and was ordered held without bail by Judge Michael Pomarole, according to Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey.

Tammie Galloway, 47, pled not guilty to one count of murder and one count of larceny of a motor vehicle at her 10 a.m. arraignment, according to District Attorney Morrissey.

"The Needham Police and Massachusetts State Police detectives attached to the Norfolk District Attorney's Office have been working at all hours of the day and night since Laura Shifrina was found dead in her apartment," District Attorney Morrissey said. "Today is only the first step in a long court process. Our thoughts are very much with Ms. Shifrina's family and friends."

Shifrina was age 81 at the time of her death.

Galloway was ordered to return to the Dedham District Court on July 28 for a probable cause hearing.

The case is assigned to Assistant District Attorney Greg Connor for the Commonwealth. The defendant is represented by attorney Robert Juvinville.

Pending charges represent accusations; all defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt under the United States Constitution.