
Norfolk County Sheriff Michael G. Bellotti

200 West Street, Dedham, MA 02027

Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey

45 Shawmut Rd., Canton, MA 02021



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: David Weber at (781) 760-8107
Or David Traub of the Norfolk District
Attorney's Office: (781) 830-4800

(This press release is jointly issued by the Norfolk District Attorney's Office and the Norfolk Sheriff's Office.)

WOMAN ARRESTED TRYING TO SMUGGLE DRUGS INTO JAIL

DEDHAM, MA, Dec. 12, 2016 - A Braintree woman was arrested after allegedly trying to smuggle drugs to an inmate at the Norfolk County House of Correction in Dedham following a joint investigation by Norfolk County Sheriff Michael G. Bellotti's investigative unit and State Police detectives attached to Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey's drug unit.

At her arraignment in Dedham District Court on Dec. 6, Jessalyn R. Price, 22, pled not guilty to possession with intent to distribute a Class B substance, conspiracy to violate the controlled substance act, and delivering or procuring to deliver contraband to a correctional facility.

Assistant District Attorney Moira Daly requested \$5,000 cash bail on Price; Judge Robert Ziemian ordered \$1,500 bail, which was posted later in the day. Price was represented by attorney Stephanie Everett and was ordered to return to court Jan. 5.

"The Sheriff's security and investigation team did a good job rooting this out," District Attorney Morrissey said after the arraignment. "When they contacted us for assistance, they had developed information about an approximate time when the delivery would be made and knew that they were looking for."

Sheriff Bellotti added, "We are always grateful for the cooperation and expertise provided by the District Attorney's Office."

The allegations are that Price arrived at the jail to visit an inmate with 20 Suboxone stripes concealed in her clothing. She was allowed into a secure area before being confronted by members of the Sheriff's Office and two State Police detectives from the Norfolk DA's Office. Jail officials said inmates are willing to pay \$100 for a single smuggled Suboxone strip.

Suboxone is used clinically outside the jail to treat heroin addiction, but it has become a popular recreational drug among inmates because it can be easily concealed.

As is the case with all defendants, Price enjoys the legal presumption of innocence until proven guilty.

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