



## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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# *Press Release*

## Two from Dedham face heroin, cocaine indictments Following Braintree-Dedham investigation *One defendant in default and being sought*

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A 34-year-old man and 29 year old woman from Dedham have been indicted on heroin trafficking and cocaine distribution charges following an investigation by Braintree and Dedham police into their alleged drug dealing in the area of the South Shore Plaza.

Ms. Luz Cepeda and Mr. Aris Veras, both of 3000 Presidents Way, Apt. 3217 in Dedham, were indicted by a Norfolk County grand jury on May 16, 2012, according to District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey. "Luz Cepeda was already in default on these charges out of Quincy District Court and defaulted at her Superior Court arraignment Thursday (July 19, 2012)," District Attorney Morrissey said. "There is an indictment warrant out for her arrest and she is being sought by authorities."

Veras pled not guilty at his Superior Court arraignment today to the charges against him. He was represented by Milton attorney John Gibbons and was ordered held on \$25,000 cash bail. He is due back in court August 2, 2012.

"This started in March with the Braintree Police Drug Control Unit looking into the sale of heroin and cocaine in and around the South Shore Plaza," Morrissey said. "The charges against these two are based on alleged hand-to-hand drug sales to undercover police officers and items found during a warranted search of their apartment in Dedham and the Plymouth Breeze automobile they were alleged to be using." They were arrested March 30, 2012 in Braintree following one such alleged drug transaction with undercover officers.

"This case is the result of strong professional police work and good cooperation between these departments," District Attorney Morrissey said, adding that as with all defendants, they enjoy the Constitutional presumption of their innocence until proven guilty. "These are serious indictments and they will be prosecuted accordingly."

All defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.