

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



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For Immediate Release

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Arraignment Friday for Physician arrested in DWI crash

A Setauket cardiologist charged with drunk driving after a crash that killed a Middle Island mother last June will be arraigned on an indictment this Friday November 21, Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota said.

Thomas Stavola, 55, is free on \$250,000 bond. He is charged with driving while intoxicated, an unclassified misdemeanor.

Police said Stavola was found walking away from the crash scene after the fatal collision at the intersection of East Main Street and Route 111 in Smithtown on June 13. Officers reported Stavola performed poorly on the field sobriety test. His blood, taken three hours after the crash, had a blood-alcohol reading of .10.

According to police, the doctor had an odor of an alcoholic beverage on his breath, was unsteady on his feet, had slurred speech, and red eyes.

The victim, Monica Peterman, was on her way to work at St. Catherine of Siena Medical Center where she worked as a dialysis technician.

She was pronounced dead at the same hospital.

State Supreme Court Justice Fernando Camacho in Central Islip will unseal the indictment.

The court calendar will be called at 9:30 am.

A criminal charge is merely an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.