

**COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**



**THOMAS J. SPOTA
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

October 17, 2012

Deer Park medical office worker to be arraigned on indictment following investigation of prescription painkiller trafficking

An office manager for a Deer Park medical office that is suspected of being a distribution center in Suffolk County for illegal painkiller prescriptions is scheduled to be arraigned on a grand jury indictment tomorrow (Thursday, October 18) in Suffolk County court in Riverhead.

Wesley Harris, 37, a prior violent felony offender, who told police he's employed as a "medical assistant" in the office will appear for arraignment before Judge James Hudson (second floor of courthouse) Thursday morning (October 18).

"Our investigation of the illegal trafficking of prescription painkillers in Suffolk County led us to this office at 207 Bay Shore Road in Deer Park," Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota said.

On June 6, District Attorney detective-investigators and the Suffolk County Police Department executed a search warrant at the location operated by a nurse-practitioner, Ingrid Gordon Patterson, of Patchogue.

"During the execution of the search warrant we found Mr. Harris possessed a loaded, .38 Titan Tiger Revolver," District Attorney Spota said. "As Mr. Harris knows, he cannot possess a firearm in light of his conviction in 2007 for sexual abuse in the first degree, and we subsequently charged him with criminal possession of a weapon in the third degree."

Harris is incarcerated in lieu of \$50,000 cash bail or bond in the Suffolk County Jail.

Nurse Practitioner Gordon-Patterson, 47, was arrested June 12 and charged with one count of criminal sale of a prescription. "This specific charge alleged the defendant sold 30 Oxycodone tablets for \$250 cash," DA Spota said. "The evidence gathered during our investigation was presented to a grand jury and she will be arraigned on an indictment on October 23."

Gordon-Patterson, who pleaded not guilty to the criminal sale of a prescription charge, is free on \$50,000 bond.

Judge Hudson will call the court calendar at 9:30 am.

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Defendants are entitled to a fair trial with the burden on the government to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.