

# ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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**Prosecutor**

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## NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

Feb. 5, 2010

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**MAYS LANDING** – An Atlantic City man was sentenced to four years in prison today for neglect of his elderly and disabled mother and three years in prison to run concurrent for a violation of probation, Atlantic County Prosecutor Ted Housel announced.

Ronald Walker, 35, denied responsibility for his actions today, but admitted at a plea hearing on Nov. 18, 2009, that he did not provide the proper care for his mother. The prosecution alleged that Walker deprived his mother Gloria Walker, 79, of her medication, oxygen and food. Additionally, Walker punched his mother and she suffered a black eye and impaired vision. She passed away shortly thereafter from an unrelated medical condition, according to Assistant Prosecutor Harlee Stein who presented the State's case.

Superior Court Judge Bernard E. DeLury presided over the sentencing. Prior to imposing sentence, he called the defendant's actions despicable, Stein stated.

Several of the victim's family members attended the emotional sentencing.

Kecia Hewitt, the victim's daughter of Vernon, Connecticut, addressed the court. She stated that her mother did not deserve her fate, that she was very loving and worked several jobs to support her family.

Before the Judge sentenced Walker, Stein told the court that this was not the first time the defendant was charged with an offense related to his mother. On Oct. 25, 2007 he was sentenced to five years probation and 364 days in jail for terroristic threats. He was ordered by the court not to have contact with his mother. Despite numerous restraining orders and no-contact orders, Walker continued to live with his elderly mother in her North Annapolis Avenue home in Atlantic City. He was still serving his term of probation for the terroristic threats when he was charged with neglect of his mother on July 23, 2009. The defendant had remained free on bail pending the outcome of the case and was taken into custody today, Stein stated.

**Anyone with information involving serious crimes is asked to call the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office at 609-909-7800 or go to the Prosecutor's Office Web site at <http://www.acpo.org/tips.html> and provide information by filling out the**

form anonymously on the Submit a Tip page. People can also call Crime Stoppers at 609-652-1234 or 1-800-658-8477 (TIPS) or visit the Crime Stoppers Website at <http://www.crimestoppersatlantic.com/>. Crime Stoppers offers cash rewards for information leading to the arrest and indictment of those who commit crimes in Atlantic County.