

District Attorney Marc Bennett
18th Judicial District of Kansas



www.sedgwickcounty.org/da <https://www.facebook.com/SedgwickCountyDistrictAttorney>

For Immediate Release, October 16, 2017

WICHITA, KAN. – A woman who took over \$57,000 from an 89 year old acquaintance while acting as her power of attorney was sentenced last week. Shirley Morgan, 80 of Wichita, was convicted of mistreatment of a dependent adult, a felony in Kansas.

District Court Judge Jeffrey Syrios sentenced Morgan to a controlling term of 32 months in prison for the crime, but granted three years probation, noting the defendant's age and lack of criminal history. Morgan was ordered to pay restitution while on probation and is prohibited from gambling.

The charge alleged that Morgan abused her status as a durable power of attorney for the victim and used the victim's money and assets for her own benefit, including gambling, instead of paying for the victim's nursing home expenses.

In Kansas, someone who accepts the responsibility of being someone's Durable Power of Attorney (DPOA) is under a duty to act in that persons best interest, avoid conflicts of interest, avoid self-dealing, keep receipts, and not co-mingle funds, assets or modify an estate plan.

The Wichita Police Department along with Investigators from the District Attorney's Office investigated the case.

District Attorney Marc Bennett
18th Judicial District of Kansas

CONTACT: DAN DILLON, MEDIA COORDINATOR 316-660-3707

Dan.Dillon@SEDGWICK.GOV