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**PLYMOUTH WOMAN ARRAIGNED FOR CHARGES RELATED TO FABRICATING
HER DEATH TO OBSTRUCT COURT PROCEEDINGS**

BROCKTON – A Plymouth woman was arraigned today on multiple charges in Brockton Superior Court after allegedly engaging in a prolonged scheme to interfere with court proceedings by fabricating her own death, Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz announced today.

Shannon Wilson, 44, is charged with two counts of Furnishing False Identifying Information and one count each of Obstruction of Justice, Forgery, Uttering A False or Forged Public Record, and Failure to Appear After Release on Bail.

Wilson pleaded not guilty and was held on \$50,000 cash bail following today's arraignment. The Commonwealth had asked she be held on \$100,000 cash bail.

According to previous indictments on this case, between 2022 and 2023, Wilson had multiple criminal matters pending in Massachusetts District Courts. During the pendency of those proceedings, Wilson allegedly represented—both personally and through defense counsel—that she was suffering from terminal cancer, was undergoing treatment, had entered hospice care, and ultimately had died.

On August 15, 2022, Wilson was arraigned in Hingham District Court following a traffic stop. Defense counsel informed the court that Wilson was terminally ill and had a limited life expectancy. An acquaintance posted \$400 bail on Wilson's behalf, and she was released subject to conditions.

In the months that followed, Wilson failed to comply with conditions of release and failed to appear as ordered. When the Commonwealth sought bail revocation, Wilson asserted she had been hospitalized. The court denied revocation but instructed Wilson that medical issues did not excuse failure to communicate or comply with court orders.

On September 12, 2022, Wilson appeared in Plymouth District Court on unrelated charges and again represented to the court that she suffered from terminal brain cancer. In January 2023, defense counsel presented a letter purportedly from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute indicating terminal illness and hospice care. Relying on those representations, the court dismissed the Plymouth case. Subsequent investigation determined Wilson was not a patient at Dana-Farber.

In May 2023, defense counsel reported receiving messages that Wilson had died and later provided a screen-captured image of a death certificate. Although no certified copy was filed, the court dismissed the matter and waived all associated fees. The document listed terminal brain cancer as the cause of death, named a Rhode Island physician as certifier, and identified a Boston funeral home.

Further investigation established that no death certificate was registered in Massachusetts or Rhode Island and that no hospice, palliative care, or funeral services had been provided for Wilson.

In August 2023, the acquaintance who had posted bail recovered the \$400 after being informed Wilson was deceased. Several weeks later, Wilson unexpectedly appeared at the acquaintance's residence and admitted she had fabricated her death.

On July 15, 2023, Wilson was arrested by Massachusetts State Police in Wareham following a traffic stop for erratic driving. She identified herself under an assumed name, claimed to be visiting from Ireland, denied her true identity, and again asserted she was terminally ill. She was found in possession of items bearing her true name and was placed under arrest.

A pre-trial hearing in Wilson's case is scheduled for May 19 in Brockton Superior Court.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Alex Zane.