

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS – PLYMOUTH DISTRICT  
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**WAREHAM MAN ARRAIGNED ON MANSLAUGHTER CHARGE IN OVERDOSE  
DEATH**

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**BROCKTON** – Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz announced that Steven D. Foss DOB: 9/15/81 of Wareham, was arraigned today in Brockton Superior Court on one count of Manslaughter, in connection with a drug overdose that occurred in February. Foss was additionally arraigned on five counts of Distribution of a Class A Substance (Heroin) and one count of Possession with the Intent to Distribute a Class A Substance (Heroin).

On February 21, 2015, Wareham Police received a 911 call for a suspected drug overdose. Wareham Police arrived at the scene and found the female victim already deceased. State Police assigned to DA Cruz's Office were notified and responded to the scene.

Today's charges allege that the victim, Paige Lopes, 25, of Wareham, purchased \$80 worth of heroin from Foss, ingested the drug and died.

This unique case is the first time Plymouth County District Attorney Cruz has brought manslaughter charges in connection with an alleged street dealer and an overdose death. DA Cruz commended the work of State Police assigned to his office along with Wareham Police for investigating the case.

"Substance abuse issues are haunting our neighborhoods," DA Cruz said. "We need to fight this problem on all levels in order to send a strong message and take back our communities."

Plymouth County Assistant District Attorney Richard Linehan requested that Foss be held on \$50,000 cash bail and Brockton Superior Court Judge Thomas F. McGuire Jr. granted that request.

Foss is next expected to appear in court on June 4<sup>th</sup> for pre-trial conference.

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