

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



THOMAS J. SPOTA  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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**Brady pleads not guilty to first degree robbery charge**

Medford robbery suspect Melinda Brady today pleaded not guilty to a charge of robbery in the first degree at her arraignment on a grand jury indictment in Riverhead.

The grand jury handed up the indictment yesterday. Robbery in the first degree is punishable by a prison term of up to 25 years.

Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota said Ms. Brady "knew her husband planned to rob Haven Drugs, drove him from the scene and later assisted him in setting up what they hoped would be an alibi."

"We cannot prove she knew David Laffer was armed with a deadly weapon," said DA Spota following the arraignment. "She told detectives she did not know her husband, inside his knapsack, carried the gun to the pharmacy."

Laffer is charged with five counts of first degree murder; one count for each of the four victims and one murder first degree count for multiple victims. Each charge is punishable by a sentence of life in prison without parole. He also faces multiple counts of criminal use of a firearm first degree.

Judge James Hudson ordered Brady held without bail.

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Every defendant is presumed innocent, unless and until found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt following a trial at which the defendant has all of the trial rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and federal law.