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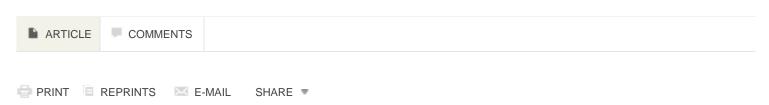


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Sutton woman, 60, beaten to death

By Gal Tziperman Lotan | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT DECEMBER 01, 2013



A Sutton woman was beaten to death on Saturday night by the man she lived with, according to the Worcester district attorney's office.

Thomas O. Starefos, 49, called police just after 10:30 p.m. Saturday, prosecutors said. Police responded and found Colleen Butler, 60, dead inside her home at 30 Torrey Road, the district attorney's office said.

Starefos was arrested at that address on charges of manslaughter and domestic assault and battery, prosecutors said.

Paul Jarvey, a spokesman for the district attorney's office, said Starefos and Butler had been romantically involved in the past, but he did not know if they were still together when Butler was killed.

Jarvey said he did not know details about the case,

including a possible motive for the alleged beating, whether police had responded to disturbances at the home in the past, or whether Starefos has faced criminal charges before.

Starefos is scheduled to be arraigned Monday in Uxbridge District Court, Jarvey said.

Starefos' father, Thomas A. Starefos, lives in Dunnellon, Fla., and said by phone Sunday night that he was unaware that his son was in police custody.



The last time the elder Starefos spoke with his son was on Thanksgiving Day.

He said that he did not know what happened Saturday night and did not know his son's girlfriend.

He declined to comment further.

Matt Rocheleau of the Globe staff contributed to this report. Gal Tziperman Lotan can be reached at gal.lotan@globe.com.

