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Metro

Math professor, 74, accused of running meth lab with son

By **Matt Rocheleau** | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT DECEMBER 04, 2011

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A college professor who has taught mathematics for more than two decades at two Boston universities will be arraigned later this month on the same drug charges her 29-year-old son recently faced for running a methamphetamine lab out of their Somerville home, according to the Middlesex District Attorney's office.

Irina Kristy, 74, who lives on Oxford Street - about 500 feet from City Hall and an elementary school - will face charges of "distribution of meth, conspiracy to violate the drug law, and drug violation in a school zone," on Dec. 21 in Somerville District Court, said Middlesex District Attorney office spokeswoman Cara O'Brien.

More details about the case will emerge at the arraignment, she said.

A court summons was filed against Kristy on Nov. 14 - the day her son, Grigory Genkin, pleaded not guilty to the same three charges before Somerville District Court Judge Maurice Flynn, who ordered he be held on \$1,000 cash bail.

Reached by phone yesterday, Kristy said: "I cannot give any comment at this time."

Kristy continues to teach full time at Boston University, but she was placed on administrative leave at Suffolk University last week.

A lecturer in the math department at BU since 1987, Kristy teaches three courses each semester, said school spokesman Colin Riley on Friday.

Riley said he could not comment further on Kristy's employment with the school because he said it is a personnel matter.

Classes for the current BU semester are scheduled to end Dec. 12, and the last day of exams is Dec. 21.

Kristy also taught math as an adjunct professor at Suffolk University from 1985 until Monday, when "after the university learned of the charges," she was "placed on administrative leave through the end of the semester," school spokesman Greg Gatlin said Friday.

"Adjunct faculty are appointed semester by semester," he said. "She has not been appointed for next semester."

Genkin was arrested last month when, accompanied by his attorney, he turned himself in to authorities, Somerville police have said.

On Nov. 7, in a daylong search of the second-floor residence at 19 Oxford St. that Genkin and Kristy share, investigators from local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies recovered evidence that the site was being used to make methamphetamine, Somerville police said in a statement last month.

"A large amount of materials believed to be hazardous" were removed from the property by hazardous materials specialists, and other items believed to be dangerous were detonated by the State Police bomb squad, the statement said.

Genkin is due back in court for a pretrial conference on Dec. 20, the district attorney spokeswoman said.

In an e-mail, Somerville Police spokesman Deputy Police Chief Paul Upton referred comment to the district

attorney's office, "since this investigation is already before the court."

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