

PUT MY DAUGHTER IN PRISON



'CLEANED ME OUT': Manny Kornicki, 86, of Roslyn Heights, L.I., says daughter Terri — in her mug shot yesterday — snatched a fur coat from her Alzheimer's-stricken mother, among other thefts.

Pa: She stole \$3M from me & mom

By SELIM ALGAR

A woman has been charged with bilking her ailing, elderly parents out of more than \$3 million — once swiping expensive clothing from her mom's closet on Long Island — to pay off credit-card bills, authorities said.

Terri Kornicki, 47, of Riverdale, in The Bronx, pleaded not guilty to first-degree grand larceny yesterday at First District Court in Hempstead. Her lawyer claimed that the money disappeared through poor investing rather than plunder.

But Kornicki's enraged father, Manny Kornicki, said yesterday that he was systematically swindled out of millions of dollars he had earned through several Queens bakeries.

Manny Kornicki, 86, of Roslyn Heights, said that his daughter took a fur coat from the closet of her Alzheimer's-stricken mother.

"I am very happy she was arrested," he said, adding that he hasn't spoken with his daughter in two years over the alleged thefts, and has removed her from his will.

"I want her to go to jail,"

he said. "She cleaned me out."

Nassau County Police said that Terri Kornicki, a married accountant and mother of two, transferred her parents' assets to her own account through ATM withdrawals and checks beginning in 1998. Her father said yesterday that some of the mass transfers came in sums of \$250,000 and that his signature was frequently forged.

He was finally alerted to the alleged swindle two years ago after learning that one of his bank accounts was overdrawn.

The incensed father, an immigrant from Poland who found prosperity in the baking business after an unsuccessful stint as a hatmaker, said that he had willed his substantial assets evenly to his two daughters 20 years ago.

"She is not getting 5 cents from me now," he said. "Not 5 cents."

Terri Kornicki's older sister, Marian, a therapist now living in California, is pursuing a civil case against her sibling with the blessing of her parents and hopes to recover some of the lost money.

A security guard at the

Kornicki's gated residence described Manny Kornicki as a devoted husband who, despite his own health problems, still pushes his ailing wife around the block in her wheelchair for fresh air.

Terri Kornicki's lawyer George Cornell, painted the case as a misunderstanding and blamed Marian Kornicki for trumping up the charges against her sister for her own gain.

But Judge Norman Jancwicz hit Terri Kornicki with \$50,000 bail.

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Cops: Woman took \$3M from parents

BY MICHAEL FRAZIER
STAFF WRITER

A Bronx woman entrusted by her parents to oversee their financial affairs was arrested after she stole \$3 million from the couple's savings, Nassau police said.

Terri Kornicki, 47, of 3220 Oxford Ave., Riverdale, was arrested Wednesday and charged with first-degree grand larceny. Kornicki is accused of bilking the millions over a seven-year period. Her parents live in North Hills.

"She didn't bankrupt them, but she took a good amount of their savings," said Det. Sgt. Lucy Graziano, commander of the Crimes Against Property Squad.

Kornicki was freed on \$25,000 bail after she pleaded not guilty yesterday in First District Court in Hempstead, a court clerk said.

After her parents gave her control over their finances, police said, Kornicki used the money for her own personal gain, including buying real estate across the country and paying off credit cards and other bills.

She withdrew the money by ATM machines, money transfers and checks from her par-



Terri Kornicki is charged with larceny

ents' checking and saving accounts.

Her 86-year-old father, whose wife suffers from Alzheimer's disease, became aware of the alleged thefts in 2004 when he learned his account was overdrawn.

He confronted his daughter before calling police.

The father had earned his fortune operating a bakery he owned for

more than 50 years, police said. Police said the investigation is ongoing.