



# NEWS RELEASE

**Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes**  
Passaic County Prosecutor's Office  
401 Grand Street  
Paterson, NJ 07505  
(973) 881-4800

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## SUSPENDED ATTORNEY ARRESTED

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PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

MARCH 22, 2011

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes announces the arrest Tuesday, March 22, 2011, of Kenneth Brookman, age 80, of North Caldwell, New Jersey, on three counts of Theft by Failure to make Required Disposition of Property.

Brookman was a lawyer engaged in the practice of law at 1135 Clifton Avenue, Clifton, New Jersey. His license to practice law was suspended July 2010. He was admitted to the Bar in 1956.

The complaints against Brookman allege that Brookman stole money from three clients during 2008 to 2010.

In the first matter, Brookman failed to disburse \$74,539 to the beneficiary of an estate. In the second matter, Brookman failed to pay over a \$17,000 deposit being escrowed on a real estate transaction. In the third case, Brookman again failed to distribute \$5,069 to the beneficiaries of an estate.

During the period of the thefts, Brookman illegally transferred clients' funds out of his Attorney Trust Account to his personal bank account or otherwise converted the entrusted funds to his personal use.

Theft by Failure to make Required Disposition of Property (N.J.S.A. 2C:20-9) in this case is a third degree offense punishable by up to five years in State prison.

This matter was investigated by members of the Financial Crimes Unit of the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office.

Passaic County Chief Assistant Prosecutor Jay W. McCann is prosecuting the case against Brookman. If you have any questions, you can contact Chief Assistant Prosecutor McCann at (973) 837-7616 or at [jmccann@passaiccountynj.org](mailto:jmccann@passaiccountynj.org)

A criminal complaint is merely an accusation. Despite this accusation, the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.