

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
FOR THE NORFOLK DISTRICT

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Press Release

Alleged 8-time drunk driver held without bail

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William D. Doten, age 65, of Westland Street in Brockton, was arraigned on Avon Police charges of OUI-5th (and subsequent) and Operating a Motor Vehicle after License suspension at roughly noon today, January 7, 2013. Doten pled not guilty before Judge Richard D. Savignano. He was represented by attorney Joseph Eisenstadt.

Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey's Office entered a motion to have Doten, whom prosecutors told Judge Savignano has 7 or more prior OUI on his record, held without bail under the Commonwealth's Dangerousness Statute. The Court ordered him held without bail pending a hearing on the dangerousness motion scheduled for Jan. 23.

In arguing for the dangerousness motion to be allowed, Assistant District Attorney Chris Meade told Judge Savignano that on Thursday, Avon police responded to a citizen report of a disabled truck in the area of 359 West Main Street. As an officer approached and opened the door of the vehicle, he experienced what he reported to be a strong odor of alcohol. The officer further observed open bottles of Vodka and Bud Lite in the passenger compartment. Doten was asked to step out of the vehicle and participate in certain tests; the officer's observations helped form probable cause for the arrest.

"Based on his history and recent events, we feel there is a real question whether he can be released without posing a danger to those around him – and that it what the Dangerousness Statute is in place to address," said District Attorney Morrissey, who has launched multiple drunk driving prevention initiatives. "That is a determination it is appropriate to ask the court to make."

All defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.