



Click here, or call us at (508) 890-9000, for information and to apply for your loan or line!



telegram.com

NEWS



CURRENT: 22°

Home | News | Sports | Business | Deaths | Entertainment | Blogs | Shop | Real Estate | Jobs | Cars | Advertise | Place an Ad

World | City/Wachusett | North | South & West | East & Valley | Photos | On the Common | Living | Etc. | Health | Food | Court | Opinion

SHARE Larger Text Smaller Text Print Email RSS Feeds



Tuesday, December 16, 2008

# Lawyer jailed for contempt involving alimony squabble

By Karen Nugent TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

2 comments | Add a comment

**CLINTON** — A prominent Clinton lawyer and civic leader is in prison on a contempt of court charge stemming from the failure to pay money she owes her ex-husband in a drawn-out divorce settlement.

Cynthia A. Dziurgot of 75 Walnut St. was sent to Framingham State Prison on Dec. 2 after receiving a 90-day sentence in Probate and Family Court. A state Department of Correction spokeswoman said yesterday she is listed as an inmate there.

According to court documents, Ms. Dziurgot was found guilty of contempt in April, for failing to comply with a Probate Court order to pay her former husband, John A. Farnsworth of Lancaster, approximately \$800,000 from a division of property agreement. She was ordered in January to pay \$500,000 of the amount by Nov. 28,



Ms. Dziurgot  
[Enlarge photo](#)



**STAT-CARE PHARMACY**  
The largest independent seeks **IV Pharmacy ...**

**Administration Manager**  
Qualified candidates will

with the balance, \$329,478, due Dec. 19.

Ms. Dziurgot, who ran Dziurgot Law Office and Dziurgot Real Estate out of her Walnut Street home — an ornate former church — was also ordered to pay Mr. Farnsworth \$75,000 in lawyer’s fees, at \$10,000 a month, beginning Jan. 19. The order, signed by Judge Ronald W. King, said Ms. Dziurgot, 54, would be sentenced immediately if the money was not paid. The sentence would have been suspended if she had met the conditions of the order, which also included surrendering her passport, a Florida driver’s license — she has an address there on some court documents — and staying in Massachusetts until further notice from the court.

Ms. Dziurgot, who sits on the board of the Wachusett Chamber of Commerce; Uptown Inc., the downtown revitalization organization; the Clinton Hospital Foundation; and WHEAT Community Services; and has served as president of Uptown and the chamber, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in August.

According to documents filed in U.S. Bankruptcy Court, she has debt ranging from \$500,000 to \$1 million, much of it from credit cards — among them Home Depot, Talbot’s and J.C. Penney — along with mortgages, and money owed to the Internal Revenue Service, and the state Department of Revenue. Her assets were listed in the documents as being from \$100,000 to \$500,000.

Besides the Walnut Street property, she had part ownership in a rental parcel at 799 Mt. Elam St. in Fitchburg, with her brother, Robert Dziurgot of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., listed in the Probate Court documents as trustee of the Elam Real Estate Trust.

The Clinton and Fitchburg properties were put into the hands of a Probate Court-appointed receiver, Eugene P. O’Donnell Jr., who is authorized to collect rent and put them up for sale.

Clinton police were called by Mr. O’Donnell on Dec. 5; he reported that Mr. Dziurgot, the brother, was at the Walnut Street home and had entered it without permission. A van with Florida license plates was parked in front of the house.

After the bankruptcy case was dismissed in November, Ms. Dziurgot filed a motion to stay an appeal of the case, contending that she faced prison, and it was in the interest of her creditors to keep the case open. The 11-year divorce proceedings were described as acrimonious. The bankruptcy court judge, in denying the stay, said Ms. Dziurgot attempted to exploit the bankruptcy process to prolong the dispute with Mr. Farnsworth, and that she was not “forthright” in her pleadings.



2 comments | Add a comment



Ads by Yahoo!

<p><b>Free Quotes From Movers In</b></p> <p>Compare FREE Multiple Quotes From Moving Companies in movingauthorizatio</p>	<p><b>Phresh Act: A Live 7-Piece</b></p> <p>The best in live music wedding receptions &amp; ceremonies. PhreshAct.com</p>	<p><b>Send a Singing Telegram</b></p> <p>Costumed Singers w/ Balloons personalized Routine. nationwidesingingt</p>
--	---	--

have 5+ years of ...

**MEDICAL BILLER** For medical office in Worc. 30hrs / wk. Exp. Meticulous ...

**CERTIFIED MEDICAL ASSISTANT** needed for new pulmonary practice opening in ...

**Watershed Engineer** \$47,000 to \$63,000 Quabbin Reservoir Belchertown ...

**OFFICE MANAGER** or **MEDICAL ASSISTANT** for internal medical practice. ...

**CAREGIVER / AIDE / CNA AM, PM & Wkend Shifts** avail. **No exp necessary. Apply ...**

**LPN INSTRUCTOR** **Blackstone Valley Vocational Technical High School ...**

**MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR** Experienced, for 112-unit apt community in ...

**SCHOOL BUS DRIVER NEEDED** -for Marlboro Child Care program. Must have CDL ...

**More great jobs at WorcesterWorks.com**

**Employers Advertise Here**