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Castle Rock Caregiver Sentenced to Jail After Stealing \$110K worth of Jewelry from Family of Disabled Son

Castle Rock, CO –A Douglas County caregiver will spend 90 days in jail after admitting to stealing more than \$110,000 worth of jewelry from the Castle Rock family where she had been entrusted to care for their quadriplegic son.

32-year-old Elsa “Gabby” Montejo-Fuentes had worked for the family for five years. In January of 2024, the family contacted the Douglas County Sheriff's Office after discovering that a wedding ring and band were missing. The wedding band was later found inside the family's vacuum cleaner, after the defendant complained of problems with the vacuum.

A further investigation by Douglas County Sheriff's Office detectives found Montejo-Fuentes had pawned her employer's Rolex watch, and other pieces of jewelry beginning in August 2023.

Montejo-Fuentes originally denied the accusations. However, after detectives confronted her with pawn shop receipts documenting the transaction, she admitted to the thefts. She also turned over the missing wedding ring to a detective, after acknowledging it had been stored in the trunk of her vehicle.

At Friday's sentencing, the family referred to the defendant as a "cruel, master manipulator."

Montes-Fuentes pleaded guilty to felony theft. In addition to the jail time, she will also pay more than \$39,000 to the family in restitution and serve four years of probation.

"This woman took advantage of a family that trusted her with the care of their non-verbal, disabled son," said Senior Deputy District Attorney Wes Stafford. "Instead of protecting the family's property and caring for their son, she used her position of trust to steal valuable and deeply personal possessions. We are grateful to the Douglas County Sheriff's Office detectives who carefully investigated this case and held her accountable."

Douglas County Sheriff Darren Weekly also praised the work of his detectives. "When someone is invited into a home to care for a vulnerable family member, that person is given an extraordinary level of trust," said Weekly. "Betraying that trust for personal gain is unacceptable, and our detectives did an outstanding job bringing the facts of this case to light."

District Attorney George Brauchler said the sentence sends a clear message about the consequences of exploiting vulnerable victims. "To prey upon a vulnerable, disabled person and a loving family's trust is more than just a despicable crime," said Brauchler. "It is a moral failing of such proportions that it should haunt this thief until well after she repays the tens of thousands of dollars she stole. Sadly, Colorado laws are set up to allow this felon to walk away from paying her full debt with no risk of additional incarceration."

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