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MEDIA RELEASE

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60 YEAR OLD MOTHER FORCED TO FLEE FROM VIOLENT SON

This week a 60 year old mother was forced to flee her home after it had been violently trashed by her alcoholic son for the 3rd time.

Independent MLC Ann Bressington put the woman in a motel because there was no emergency or crisis housing to be found after police released the man on bail in the early hours of Monday morning.

"I could not send her away unassisted because I did not want it on my conscience if anything happened to her and she was clearly traumatised," Ann Bressington said.

"He was detained for breach of bail late Saturday night after the mother, who feared for her safety, called police. The man was due to appear in court on Wednesday on another breach of bail charge and the mother believed he would have been detained until then. To her surprise she was woken in the early hours by her son standing over her while he apologised for his behaviour."

"The mother has reported to me that his tirades are becoming more frequent and more violent and sometimes she has to wait hours for police to attend."

The man was released on bail in December 2010 to his mother's residence, without her knowledge and part of his bail conditions was that he was to be tested for alcohol in his system. According to his mother he has not been tested once since December.

The man has a long history of violent crime, including robbery and aggravated assault and has a charge sheet 28 pages long.

He was again bailed today and served with a restraining order to stay away from his mother.

The mother and her advocate were told while waiting for the restraining order that the police station at Port Adelaide was empty because of upgrades and all police had been assigned to The Parks, despite being directed by the Port Adelaide Magistrate Court to the Henley Beach Police Station where an officer told them that if they wanted to file a complaint against the son that they should be prepared to wait for at least 6 hours.

"This is obviously a resourcing issue causing police to be unable to comply with bail conditions and it will be on the hands of this government if a person is injured or worse still killed in a similar situation," Ann Bressington said.

"Every system is in crisis and it seems that the government sits back while 'Rome burns'."

For more information call Ann Bressington on (08) 8237 9596