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# Accused of blackmailing Brian Cashman found guilty on 9 counts of fraud to get apartment

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Louise Meanwell, aka Louise Neathway, faces up to 15 years behind bars on the top charge of grand larceny.

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Louise Meanwell, 39, was found guilty on all counts — nine in total — including second-degree grand larceny, falsifying business records and offering a false instrument for filing.

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She faces up to 15 years behind bars on the top charge of grand larceny.

The jury of seven men and five women came back with a verdict after a week-long trial in Manhattan Supreme Court and less than a full day of deliberations.

Meanwell, who also goes by Neathway, appeared crushed as the jury foreman relayed the verdict but did not have a visible reaction as she sat in the well.

Prosecutors Kenn Kern and Daniel Holmes argued Meanwell "blatantly" lied on her 2007 application for a below-market one bedroom at 88 Leonard St., a posh building just blocks from the courthouse where she was convicted.

Holmes told jurors in his summation Thursday that "if you look at the documents ... what she did is painfully clear. She committed fraud."



BRYAN R. SMITH FOR NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

**Meanwell is also accused of stalking and blackmailing Yankees general manager Brian Cashman.**

Meanwell's attorney Lawrence LaBrew said after the verdict that his client's defense was handcuffed by prior rulings, including one that barred him from

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arguing she had battered women's syndrome from past spousal abuse and that it drove her actions.

LaBrew said he was "seriously inhibited by the prior decisions."

He was also not allowed to pose a defense that Meanwell had a target on her back because of [the Cashman case](#). Her team has claimed that she was slapped with a massive indictment including additional charges because of Cashman's stature.

She will stand trial separately for allegedly demanding Cashman — [who was married at the time of their affair](#) — pay her off to keep her from going public with their relationship.

She was also [indicted in 2012 for perjury](#) in connection to lies she allegedly told to a grand jury.

Meanwell, who hails from the United Kingdom, could face deportation over her felony conviction.

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Meanwell's attorney Lawrence LaBrew said after the verdict that his client's defense was handcuffed by prior rulings, including one that barred him from arguing she had battered women's syndrome from past spousal abuse and that it drove her actions.

So every woman who commits a crime should be able to use this battered womans syndrome and get a free pass, or as it's called in baseball, a walk.

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Oh! I can go to jail for fifteen years or I can go to merry England. Let me think about that one.

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