



Lawyer jailed for stealing from elderly client

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A lawyer from Margaret River, south of Perth, has been sentenced to almost eight year for stealing almost \$900,000 from an elderly client.

Between 2001 and 2006, 41-year-old Damien Brennan stole \$896,000 thousand from Jozef Kopec who lived alone on a farm near Margaret River.

Some of the money was stolen after Mr Kopec died in 2006 at the age of 83.

Brennan had power of attorney over Mr Kopec's affairs and used the money to pay bills, take an overseas holiday and renovate his house.

Outside the court a relative of Mr Kopec, Stan Bartosak, said the family had pursued the matter, to try to warn others

"To the general public to know what could happen by placing your trust in someone of this standing," he said.

Brennan will have to serve five and a half years before he can be released.

Topics: law-crime-and-justice, crime, prisons-and-punishment, margaret-river-6285, wa



PHOTO: Lawyer Damien Brennan, who stole an elderly client's money, has been jailed for almost nine years.