



# JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Thursday, July 30, 2015

## **MURPHYSBORO MAN SENTENCED FOR AGGRAVATED DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE**

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that on July 27, 2015, a Murphysboro resident, Daniel Spencer, age 34, was sentenced to the Illinois Department of Corrections for Aggravated Driving While Under the Influence, following an open plea of guilty on June 8, 2015.

On February 23, 2014, Jackson County Sheriff's Deputies responded to the intersection of Old Highway 13 and Duck Lane in rural Murphysboro. When the deputies arrived, they located a tan Ford Crown Victoria almost ¼ of a mile off the south side of Old Highway 13. The vehicle had driven off the south bank of the road and struck a tree with such force that it uprooted the tree. Upon impact, the vehicle began to roll. Inside the vehicle were two individuals with multiple traumatic injuries. The two occupants inside the vehicle were transported by ambulance to Memorial Hospital of Carbondale for treatment of multiple traumatic injuries.

At the hospital, the deputies determined that the driver of the vehicle was the defendant, Daniel Spencer. Medical tests revealed that at the hospital the defendant had a blood alcohol content of 0.314. The defendant had suffered multiple broken bones in his legs and pelvic area. The passenger suffered broken bones in his chest and pelvic area.

On May 10, 2014, the Jackson County State's Attorney's office charged the defendant with one count of Aggravated Driving Under the Influence, a Class 4 Felony. On June 8, 2015, the defendant pled open to the charge. An open plea of guilty is an open admission of guilt to which a Judge assigns a sentence. On July 27, 2015, a Jackson County Judge sentenced the defendant to two (2) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections with one (1) year of Mandatory Supervised Release, also known as parole. The defendant was released on furlough until Wednesday, July 29, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Department. Assistant State's Attorney Patrick Brewster was responsible for the prosecution of this case.