



# JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **MURPHYSBORO MAN SENTENCED TO JAIL AND PROBATION FOR AGGRAVATED DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED**

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that a Murphysboro resident was sentenced for one count of Aggravated Driving While License Suspended. George Travis, 50, of Murphysboro, Illinois, was sentenced on 18 months of probation, 180 days in the Jackson County Jail, and court costs.

On August 27, 2012, officers with the Murphysboro Police Department were conducting traffic patrol near the corner of S. Williams Street and Wells Street in Murphysboro. At approximately 6:45 p.m., a white Mercury Sable turned onto Wells Street at a high rate of speed and squealed its tires. A traffic stop was attempted on the vehicle near that location. After a brief pursuit, the officers were able to stop the vehicle near Bridgewood Street in Murphysboro. The driver originally provided false identification to the police, but further investigation from prior police contacts revealed the defendant as the driver of the vehicle. The driver showed indicators of impairment, and a review of the defendant's driving abstract revealed his driver's license was suspended. The defendant was arrested and transported to the Jackson County Jail.

On August 28, 2012, the Jackson County State's Attorney's Office charged the defendant with Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and Driving While License Suspended, both Class A Misdemeanors. On October 24, 2012, the defendant failed to appear and a warrant was issued for his arrest. On January 20, 2014, the defendant was finally found and arrested on the warrant. On May 14, 2014, the State's Attorney's Office refiled the case as Aggravated While License Revoked, a Class 4 Felony, and Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol, a Class A Misdemeanor.

This is the defendant's seventh violation for Driving While License Revoked. The charge was aggravated because four of his prior convictions occurred while his license was revoked for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. The defendant was eligible to receive 1 to 3 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections or up to 30 months of probation. The minimum he could receive was 180 days in the Jackson County Jail. The defendant was placed on 18 months of probation and will serve 180 days in the Jackson County Jail. The Driving Under the Influence charge was dismissed as a part of the plea in the felony case. The defendant was granted permission to remain on bond until March 11, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. when he must report to the Jackson County Jail.

The investigation was conducted by the Murphysboro Police Department. Assistant State's Attorney Patrick J. Brewster was responsible for the prosecution of this case.