



# JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

**Michael C. Carr, State's Attorney**

Jackson County Courthouse • 1001 Walnut • Third Floor • Murphysboro, IL 62966  
(618) 687-7200 • FAX (618) 687-7215

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael C. Carr, State's Attorney

Monday, June 29, 2015

## **DESOTO WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO AGGRAVATED DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE**

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that Meghan Stanton, 24, a resident of Desoto, Illinois, pled guilty to Aggravated Driving Under the Influence on June 29, 2015.

On October 4, 2013, officers from the Carbondale Police Department were dispatched to Attucks Park in Carbondale, Illinois, regarding possible cannabis use. When the officers arrived they observed a 2013 black Ford Edge being driven by the defendant, Meghan Stanton. The officers knew the defendant from prior arrests to have a suspended driver's license. A traffic stop was conducted on the vehicle on E. Chestnut Street in Carbondale.

When the officers approached the vehicle, they noticed a strong smell of burnt cannabis coming from the vehicle. The defendant admitted to smoking cannabis at Attucks Park moments prior to being stopped. The defendant was subsequently arrested for Driving Under the Influence of Drugs and taken to Memorial Hospital of Carbondale. While at the hospital, the defendant voluntarily provided a urine sample that was sent to the Illinois State Police Crime Lab for testing. The results of those tests revealed that the defendant tested positive for THC, a chemical found in Cannabis.

On October 4, 2013, the Jackson County State's Attorney's Office charged the defendant with Aggravated Driving Under the Influence of Cannabis, a Class 4 Felony, and Aggravated Driving While License Revoked, also a Class 4 Felony. On June 29, 2015, the defendant pled open to the Aggravated DUI charge and the Aggravated Driving While License Revoked was dismissed. The defendant is eligible to receive up to 1 to 3 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections or 30 months of probation. The defendant will be sentenced on August 31, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at the Jackson County Courthouse.

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