



JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ALEX B. KARCHER, SALINA, KANSAS, SENTENCED TO THE ILLINOIS **DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS IN SHOOTING** **OF A CARBONDALE POLICE OFFICER**

The State's Attorney for Jackson County, Illinois, Michael C. Carr, announced today that Alex. B. Karcher, age 24, of Salina, Kansas, was sentenced to serve 27 and 1/2 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections for charges related to the shooting of Carbondale Police Officer Trey Harris on July 31, 2016.

On November 13, 2018, Karcher entered an open plea of guilty to Conspiracy to Possess with the Intent to Deliver more than 5,000 Grams of a Substance Containing Cannabis, a Class 1 Felony; Aggravated Battery to a Police Officer, a Class X Felony; and Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm, a Class X Felony.

Karcher admitted that he, along with others, conspired to possess with the intent to deliver more than 5,000 grams of a substance containing cannabis in Jackson and Williamson Counties during the period of December 2014 through August 2, 2016. Karcher further admitted that on or about July 31, 2016, he and other co-conspirators came to Carbondale, Illinois, to collect on a debt from a previous cannabis deal. In the course of that debt collection, shots were fired in the area of the 700 block of North Robert A. Stalls Avenue. Carbondale police officers who were patrolling the area heard the shots and observed a vehicle in which Karcher was a passenger speed away from the scene. During the pursuit, Karcher discharged a firearm seven times at the pursuing police car as the vehicles traveled on Dillinger Road north of Carbondale. One of those shots struck Carbondale police officer Trey Harris in the eye, thereby causing great bodily harm.

Karcher was sentenced to serve a total of 27 ½ years in the Illinois Department of Corrections, followed by a three (3) year period of Mandatory Supervised Release. He was also sentenced to serve 30 months of Conditional Discharge following his release from prison.

The investigation was conducted by the Illinois State Police, the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, the Carbondale Police Department, the Metro-East Forensic Science Lab, the Southern Illinois Enforcement Group, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, and Salina, Kansas Police Department. State's Attorney Michael C. Carr was responsible for the prosecution.