



# JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Friday, February 28, 2020

### **KEONA TAYLOR-MCKENZIE, CARTERVILLE, SENTENCED TO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS FOR RECKLESS HOMICIDE**

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that Keona Taylor-McKenzie, 22, of Carterville, Illinois, was sentenced to the Illinois Department of Corrections for Reckless Homicide.

On July 23, 2017, the Jackson County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a rollover vehicle crash on North Marion Street in rural Carbondale, Illinois. Taylor-McKenzie was the driver of the vehicle. There were two juvenile passengers in the vehicle, one of whom died as a result of her injuries.

On November 27, 2018, the defendant entered an open plea of guilty to Reckless Homicide, a class 3 Felony, which is probationable. On February 28, 2019, following a contested sentencing hearing, the court sentence the defendant to probation for a period of 30 months with conditions which required her to pay a fine, report regularly to probation, refrain from the use of alcohol, complete drug/alcohol treatment and testing, maintain employment, refrain from entering establishments of which the primary sales is alcohol, and to refrain from the use of cannabis. After finding that she had violated all of those terms of her probation, the court revoked her probation sentence and resentenced her to serve two and one-half years (2 ½ ) in the Illinois Department of Corrections, to be followed by one (1) year of mandatory supervised release.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office. Assistant State's Attorney Arryn Carson was responsible for the prosecution of this case.