



NEWS RELEASE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SIX TIME DWI OFFENDER CONVICTED SEVENTH TIME

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that a Greene County jury today found Neil Roger Johnson, II, 43, of Springfield, MO guilty of one count of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI), one count of Driving While License Revoked and one count of Failure to Maintain a Lane.

Johnson, who was already a six-time DWI offender, faces a range of punishment of five years to 15 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. DWI offenders in Missouri face increasingly harsher penalties as they repeat the crime. A first time DWI is a Class B Misdemeanor, which carries a possible maximum sentence of only six months in jail. Penalties for repeat offenders increase until the fifth DWI offense. Because the defendant had at least four prior alcohol-related convictions, he will face the B Felony range of punishment and the possibility of a 15 year sentence in prison when he is sentenced on February 21, 2014. A B Felony DWI conviction also requires the defendant to serve at least two years in the Missouri Department of Corrections before he is eligible for probation or parole.

The Honorable Thomas Mountjoy presided over Johnson's trial and will decide Johnson's sentence. After the finding of guilt today, Judge Mountjoy also revoked Johnson's current bond, took him into custody and set a new bond at \$50,000.

The State presented evidence that Johnson was pulled over in the early morning hours of December 2, 2011 by Missouri State Highway Patrol Corporal Shane Monk. Monk has since been promoted and is now a sergeant. Monk conducted a stop and DWI investigation near the area of South Wildan and Belmont and jurors were able to view much of the investigation on a video from Monk's dashboard camera, along with

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video from the Greene County Jail where Monk continued his investigation after he arrested Johnson for driving while intoxicated. Monk is a nearly 17-year veteran of the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

In addition to the punishment Johnson will face on the Driving While Intoxicated count, Johnson could also face up to an additional 4 years in prison on the count of Driving While License Revoked and an additional 15 days on the count of Failure to Maintain Lane.

**This case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys Kevin Young and Jody Larison.**

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