



NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Sentenced for 9th DWI

SPRINGFIELD, Missouri. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Steven W. Marris, 58, of Springfield, Missouri was sentenced today for the felony of Driving While Intoxicated - Habitual Offender. This was Mr. Marris' 9th driving while intoxicated conviction.

Marris was sentenced by The Honorable Jason Brown to 18 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections after a jury found him guilty in October. The State argued for a substantial prison sentence due to the defendant's history of alcohol related traffic offenses and the fact that he had been previously ordered to attend various alcohol treatments (including a residential treatment and a 28 day in-patient treatment) as well as victim impact panels.

The Greene County Prosecutor's Office recognizes the challenges of substance abuse but also takes seriously its obligation to protect the community from dangerous individuals such as the defendant. As stated in the memo filed with the court by Mothers Against Drunk Driving, "Given his past conduct, Mr. Marris should be acutely aware of the dangers of driving while impaired and the consequences that go along with those decisions. It is very obvious based on Mr. Marris continued choice to drive impaired he has no regard for the safety of innocent people."

This case was prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Solon McGee and Darren Dodd. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Department and Officer Zachary Compton was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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