



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DRUNK DRIVER AVOIDS PRISON AND SUPERVISION
AFTER FELONY CONVICTION BY JURY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Elliott James Bott, 52, of Lebanon, Missouri was sentenced today for assault in the second degree by driving while intoxicated and causing a crash that injured another person. During the sentencing, prosecutors sought a five year prison sentence. The defendant was sentenced by Judge David Jones to ten months in the Greene County Jail. With credit for time served during previous periods of pretrial detention the defendant will not serve any sentence following his conviction by the jury. The defendant will also avoid supervision and treatment by the Department of Probation and Parole despite the fact that he has three other driving while intoxicated convictions. In addition, the defendant has a record of one felony arson in the second degree conviction and ten misdemeanor convictions including two for assault of a law enforcement officer. The defendant also has a record of probation and parole revocations.

On December 17, 2015, Bott was convicted by a Greene County jury following a two day jury trial. The jury deliberated for just over three hours before arriving at its guilty verdict. This case involved a 2011 crash at the intersection of Battlefield and Glenstone at eleven o'clock in the evening. The nineteen year old victim had just left work and was headed home after dropping off the bank deposit. The victim had a green light and was driving through the intersection west on Battlefield Road when Bott ran his red light on Glenstone Avenue and struck the victim's vehicle injuring him. Bott's blood alcohol level at the time was .237 just under three times the legal limit. The jury rejected the defendant's claim that another person he met that night had been driving his car and fled the scene leaving him behind. On the advice of counsel, the defendant did not give a statement to the probation officer who wrote the sentencing assessment

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Bott, 1231-CR05187-02

report for the court and the defendant has never taken responsibility for his actions that night.

This case was prosecuted by First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Philip Fuhrman. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Dept. and Detective Shawn Clawson was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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