



TANEY COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: JULY 17, 2009

**DANNY PRESTON SENTENCED TO A DECADE IN PRISON FOR DRIVING WHILE
INTOXICATED**

Taney County Prosecuting Attorney, Jeffrey M. Merrell announced today that DANNY JAMES PRESTON, dob: 04/03/1960, of Forsyth, Missouri was sentenced Thursday to ten (10) years for driving while intoxicated and four (4) years for driving while license revoked by Taney County Circuit Judge Mark Orr. Probation was denied and both sentences are to run concurrent. On May 21, 2009, DANNY JAMES PRESTON plead guilty without a plea agreement to the class B felony of driving while intoxicated as a chronic offender and to the class D felony of driving while license revoked.

On January 17, 2009, Trooper Justin Henderson of the Missouri State Highway Patrol responded to a single vehicle crash on County Road Y, west of Nicholas road in Taney County, Missouri. The driver of the vehicle was found hiding in the woods a short distance from the where his Ford Mustang overturned in the ditch. When Trooper Henderson made contact with the driver he observed bloodshot eyes, a strong odor of intoxicants, slurred speech and swaying. The driver, who was later identified as DANNY JAMES PRESTON, admitted to Trooper Henderson that he had eight beers. DANNY JAMES PRESTON refused to submit to standardized field sobriety tests, and when asked to submit to chemical blood test, DANNY JAMES PRESTON, yelled an obscenity at Trooper Henderson. Later through his investigation, Trooper Henderson learned that DANNY JAMES PRESTON was driving on a revoked driver's license and had five prior driving while intoxicated convictions.

In response to the sentence, Jeffrey M. Merrell stated, "This sentence is proof that Missouri's chronic DWI offender laws work in keeping our roads safe from drunk drivers. This defendant had absolutely no business driving in our community, and this was an appropriate sentence for someone that had a complete disregard for the law and the safety of other drivers."

For more information please visit www.taneycountyprosecutor.com

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