



TANEY COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THREE-YEAR SENTENCE FOR DRUNK DRIVING

FORSYTH MO – Taney County Prosecuting Attorney, Jeffrey M. Merrell announced today that DOUGLAS R. WILBUR, dob: 3/8/193 of Hollister, Missouri was sentenced to three (3) years for the offense of felony driving while intoxicated, and three (3) years for the offense of driving while license revoked by Taney County Circuit Judge Mark Orr on Thursday. Both sentences are to run concurrent and probation was denied.

On January 8, 2008, DOUGLAS R. WILBUR was stopped by Taney County Sheriff's Deputy Travis McConnell in the post office parking lot in Powersite, Missouri after Deputy McConnell observed the defendant weaving in his vehicle on State Highway VV. When Deputy McConnell made contact with the defendant he observed the odor of alcohol coming from DOUGLAS R. WILBUR, and the odor of marijuana coming from his vehicle. DOUGLAS R. WILBUR was arrested for driving while intoxicated and driving while revoked after refusing to submit to a portable breath test. At the jail the defendant showed multiple signs of impairment during the performance of sobriety tests administered by Deputy McConnell. DOUGLAS R. WILBUR also refused to submit to a chemical test of his breath.

In response to the three (3) year sentence, Taney County Prosecuting Attorney Jeffrey M. Merrell had this to say, "It is rewarding to see a prison sentence executed for a drunk driving offense committed by a defendant with multiple prior convictions. Mr. Wilbur was willing to put the Taney County community at risk yet again through drunk driving."

DOUGLAS R. WILBUR entered a guilty plea to the two charges just seconds before a Taney County Jury was seated for jury trial in his case on November 16, 2009. Following DOUGLAS R. WILBUR's guilty plea, the Taney County Prosecuting Attorney's Office conducted a jury trial in the child molestation case of RICHARD ANDERSON, and obtained a guilty verdict.

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