



JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monday, April 11, 2016

BRIAN RUNION, CARBONDALE, SENTENCED TO THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS FOR 10th DRIVING WHILE LICENSE REVOKED CASE

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that a Carbondale resident, Brian A. Runion, age 59, of Carbondale, was sentenced to the Illinois Department of Corrections for Driving While License Revoked, following an open plea of guilty on February 22, 2016.

On March 11, 2015, Deputies with the Jackson County Sheriff's Department responded to the intersection of Illinois Highway 51 and Old Highway 51 in regards to a traffic accident. When the deputies arrived, they learned that a red GMC truck pulling a trailer had disobeyed a traffic signal and crashed into a red Peterbilt tractor trailer. The driver of the red GMC truck had left the scene.

A short time after the deputies arrived, the defendant, Brian Runion, returned and identified himself as the driver of the red GMC truck. It was determined that his driver's license was revoked at the time of the accident for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol, and he was placed under arrest.

On March 31, 2015, the Jackson County State's Attorney's Office charged Mr. Runion with Driving While License Revoked, a Class 3 Felony; Operating an Uninsured Motor Vehicle, a business offense; and Disregarding a Traffic Control Device, a petty offense. On the Driving While License Revoked charge, he was eligible to receive a sentence of one (1) to three (3) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections with one (1) year of Mandatory Supervised Release. He was not eligible to receive probation or conditional discharge.

On February 22, 2016, the defendant pled guilty to an amended charge of Driving While License Revoked, a Class 4 Felony. The amended charge carries a possible sentence of one (1) to three (3) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections with one year of Mandatory Supervised Release. However, due to Mr. Runion's prior convictions, he was eligible to receive an extended term sentence making the sentencing range one to six (6) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections or up to 30 months of probation. The remaining charges were dismissed pursuant to the open plea.

On April 11, 2016, a Jackson County Judge sentenced the defendant to serve two (2) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections with one (1) year of Mandatory Supervised Release. He will receive forty-seven (47) days credit for time he has already served in custody, and was granted a furlough to April 21st, 2016 at 12:00 p.m. This is the defendant's tenth (10th) violation for Driving While License Revoked.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Department. Assistant State's Attorney Patrick J. Brewster was responsible for the prosecution of this case.