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Amanda Erickson receives a prison sentence for killing two passengers while driving drunk

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced that 30-year-old Amanda Erickson received an 18 month prison sentence for causing the death of Donnell Wilkins and Brandon Levison.

The families of Mr. Wilkins and Mr. Levison were consulted and updated regularly throughout the plea negotiation process. They supported the case being resolved through a negotiated settlement.

Multnomah County Deputy District Attorney Parakram Singh, who prosecuted this matter, said this was an appropriately resolved case after a thorough investigation and upon a careful review facts.

This investigation started on June 28, 2017 at approximately 10:45 p.m., when Portland Police Officer Nathan Simmons heard a loud crash while he was on-duty and parked in a patrol vehicle in the 8400 block of North Columbia Boulevard.

Officer Simmons located a two-vehicle crash in the 8800 block of North Columbia Boulevard. Wilkins and Levison died at the scene. Both were passengers of Erickson's vehicle.

The Portland Police Bureau's Traffic Division Major Crash Team responded to the scene.

During the investigation, law enforcement learned that Erickson was driving her Mercedes Benz westbound on North Columbia Boulevard and attempted to turn into an apartment complex parking lot. During the turn, Erickson's vehicle collided with the BMW that was traveling eastbound. The driver of the BMW did not suffer life-threatening injuries, but was transported to the hospital. She was not impaired at the time of the crash.

Upon arriving on scene, Officer Simmons reported smelling a strong odor of alcoholic beverage coming from the Mercedes Benz and saw multiple beer cans throughout the vehicle. Other officers contacted Erickson and could smell alcohol coming from her breath and noted that she was slurring her words and had bloodshot eyes. Erickson admitted to law enforcement that she should not have been driving and that she had consumed multiple beers and had taken a shot of alcohol. The blood draw taken from Erickson about 90 minutes after the collision, showed a blood-alcohol concentration of .10%.

"Under the terms of this pretrial agreement, Amanda Erickson faces prison a sanction in combination with multiyear plan for supervision and treatment designed specifically to ensure that she does not reoffend," DDA Singh said. "Under the law, we believe our strongest charge in this case, given the facts as we know them, was criminal negligent homicide."

Criminal negligent homicide is not subject to a mandatory minimum sentence. Under Oregon law, a conviction of criminal negligent homicide can result in a sentence of prison or probation depending on numerous factor surrounding the circumstances of the case.

Sentencing occurred on February 25, 2019. Erickson pleaded to two counts of criminal negligent homicide and one count of driving under the influence of intoxicants.

In addition to her prison sentence, Erickson will have three years of post-prison supervision and five years of probation. Her driving privileges have been revoked for life.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office recognizes the Portland Police Officer Nathan Simmons, the other patrol officers who responded and the PPB's Traffic Division Major Crash Team for their dedicated efforts investigating this case.

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