

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney

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SOUTH ELGIN MAN GETS THREE YEARS IN PRISON FOR DUI CRASH THAT LEFT TWO WITH PERMANENT INJURIES

JOHN SCHWARTZ CAUSED MULTI-VEHICLE CRASH WHILE HIGH

February 3, 2023

RE: John A. Schwartz: Age 23 (d.o.b. 4-10-1999), of the 600 block of Waterside Drive, South Elgin, Illinois. Case No. 20CF1760.

Kane County Judge Alice C. Tracy has sentenced **John A. Schwartz** to three years of imprisonment in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

On September 29, 2022, Schwartz pled guilty to the offense of aggravated DUI with great bodily harm, Class 4 felony, 2 counts.

The following facts were presented in court:

At about 10:30 a.m. on June 20, 2020, Schwartz was driving a 2002 Chevrolet pick-up south on Dunham Road in the vicinity of Dunham Court. Schwartz's vehicle rear-ended the first victim's car and forced it into the path of the second victim's vehicle, a garbage truck, which left the roadway and struck a tree. Both victims suffered great bodily harm as a result of the crashes. Schwartz was traveling in excess of 20 mph over the posted speed limit, and the investigation revealed he had marijuana and benzodiazepines in his system.

In accordance with Illinois law, Schwartz must serve at least 85 percent of the sentence. He receives credit for one day served in the Kane County jail.

ASA Katy Flannagan said: "This is another example of a young person choosing to get high and drive with tragic results. Both of these victims suffered permanent, life-altering injuries because of Mr. Schwartz's poor decisions. Although it might be legal in Illinois to use some amounts of cannabis, driving while impaired by cannabis remains illegal and very dangerous, as evidenced by the tragic facts of this case. My thanks to the Wayne Police Department, to Carrie Kilpatrick, a victim advocate with the Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists, to former Kane County ASA Chris McCall, and to Kane County SAO victim advocate Linda Hagemann for their work on this case."

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