



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
FOR THE NORFOLK DISTRICT

45 SHAWMUT ROAD
CANTON, MA 02021
(781) 830.4800
FAX (781) 830.4801

MICHAEL W. MORRISSEY
NORFOLK DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Press Release

Repeat drunk driver sent to prison After fleeing high speed crash

Contact: D. Traub, 781-830-4800 x 217

The 50-year old Weymouth man who struck and severely injured another driver on Rte. 3 northbound in Braintree in January 2012 has admitted he was drunk and negligent that night, and was sentenced to state prison on Friday, Aug. 23.

"This was a terrible crash. A State Police officer observed Joseph Egan going as fast as 110 MPH, weaving in and out of traffic before rear-ending a Toyota Highlander," District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey said after the plea. "The injuries to the victim are such that even 20 months later, they were an impediment to his attending court hearings."

The force of the impact caused the victim's car to be forced off the road and strike a guardrail, then to carom back into the roadway.

Assistant Norfolk District Attorney Adam Lally asked Norfolk Superior Court Judge Robert C. Cosgrove to sentence Egan to 4 to 5 years in State Prison, citing his previous convictions for OUI in the Quincy District court in July of 1997 and again in August of 1998. Judge Cosgrove sentenced him to 2 ½ to 3 ½ years in State Prison, followed by 3 years of probation monitoring – including abstinence from alcohol and any ordered treatment.

Following the collision, State Police smelled a strong odor of alcohol on Mr. Egan's breath. En route to the hospital, Egan told a paramedic that he had consumed a twelve pack of beer. Medical records obtained after his treatment at South Shore Hospital indicated that Egan's blood alcohol level was .22%, or more than twice the legal limit of .08%.

"This crash was a life changing event for the victim, but he has maintained his contact with our office and consistently been part of the process," District Attorney Morrissey said. "Judge Cosgrove's sentence is substantial, but no punishment can undo the damage."

Egan will also lose his license for 8 years and be subject to additional controls on his behavior during probation.