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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** MAY 11, 2017

## **Jessica Bellerose Sentenced in Violent Drunk Driving Crash**



**ALBANY, NY-** District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that JESSICA BELLEROSE, 41, of Troy, was sentenced to 2 1/3 to 7 years in State Prison, before the Honorable Thomas A. Breslin in Albany County Supreme Court this morning. BELLEROSE will also be ordered a term of 3 years of Probation upon release from custody with the requirement for installation of an Interlock Ignition Device, in addition to being subject to a driver's license revocation for a minimum of 6 months subject to Department of Motor Vehicles determinations.

On March 16, 2017, BELLEROSE pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Manslaughter in the Second Degree, a Class C Felony, (1) Count of Vehicular Manslaughter in the Second Degree, a Class D Felony, and (1) Driving While Intoxicated, a Misdemeanor.

On October 11, 2016, at approximately 6:43 P.M., BELLEROSE recklessly drove a 2007 Pontiac Grand Prix while intoxicated on Alternate Route 7 in the Town of Colonie. BELLEROSE passed multiple vehicles, eventually sideswiping a Subaru in the right hand lane. BELLEROSE then drove into the center median and her car became airborne. Upon landing, the vehicle crashed into the front driver's side of another car being driven in the westbound lane by Paige Ahearn, age 18. The crash killed Paige instantly and caused injuries to the passenger in that vehicle.

Blood test result revealed that BELLEROSE was operating the vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .14 percent. BELLEROSE also admitted to drinking throughout the day.

“This was a 100% preventable crash that left an 18 year old young woman dead and her family and community forever changed because of the selfish and deadly decisions of the defendant,” commented DA David Soares.

Vehicular Crimes Unit Bureau Chief Mary Tanner-Richter and Assistant District Attorney David Szalda prosecuted this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh at (518) 275-4710 or [cecilia.walsh@albanycountyny.gov](mailto:cecilia.walsh@albanycountyny.gov)



Jessica Bellerose's Car After Crash



Paige Ahearn's Car After Crash

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