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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2012

Repeat DWI's Lead to State Prison



ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that LESTER ROYAL, 55, of Albany, pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Driving While Intoxicated, a Class D Felony, this morning in Albany County Court before Judge Stephen Herrick.

ROYAL, who at the time of the crime was on felony level probation for a previous DWI conviction, faces 2 1/3 to 7 years in State Prison, in addition to concurrent 1 to 3 years in State Prison for the violation of probation, when sentenced on January 8, 2013.

On September 20, 2011, ROYAL was driving a vehicle on South Pearl Street in the City of Albany when police pulled him over for a traffic infraction. ROYAL had visible signs of intoxication and failed several field sobriety tests. ROYAL refused a breathalyzer test.

“As Mr. Royal can attest, we take DWI very seriously in Albany County. Our roads are filled with people navigating their way to and from home and work. Drinking and driving places us all at risk. Mr. Royal will now be spending many holidays behind bars,” commented DA Soares. “As we approach the holiday season I encourage all drivers to make a safe driving plan when they head out. Our roads are busy with shoppers and travelers and it is imperative that all drivers make safe decisions to ensure the safety of everyone on the road.”

Assistant District Attorney Matthew Peluso of the Vehicular Crimes Unit prosecuted this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Logue.

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