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## Repeat Drunk Driver Sentenced for Menands DWI Deemed to be Persistent Felony Offender



**ALBANY, NY-** District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that JOHN GARDY, 72, of Menands, was sentenced to 15 years to Life in State Prison before the Honorable William A. Carter in Albany County Court this afternoon. Based on GARDY'S serious criminal history of repeat driving while intoxicated crimes, the Court ruled that he be deemed a Persistent Felony Offender, which means he could potentially spend the rest of his life in State Prison.

On September 18, 2017, GARDY pleaded guilty to an indictment of (2) Counts of Driving While Intoxicated, each Class E Felonies.

On June 27, 2017, at approximately 5:01 P.M., GARDY was operating a 2000 Chevrolet Silverado truck in an intoxicated state on Broadway in the Village of Menands. Another driver on the roadway called 911 to report that GARDY was driving erratically and forcing several other motorists to pull out of his way to avoid being struck. Members of the Menands Police Department responded and GARDY was taken into custody. A chemical analysis of GARDY'S blood showed a .14 percent concentration of alcohol almost two hours after the traffic stop.

Since 1977, GARDY has been arrested (10) times for driving while intoxicated, resulting in (8) convictions. Two of these times GARDY refused to submit to chemical tests. His history includes (7) felony driving while intoxicated convictions, (5) of which resulted in a State Prison sentence. Four of these incidents happened on the same roadway in Menands as the current offense. GARDY has violated terms of Parole in the past, including an incident where he was found driving a dump truck with a BAC of .16 approximately 40 minutes after a traffic stop, all while having a revoked license from a previous offense. In one case GARDY was driving with a BAC of .21 approximately 50 minutes after police stopped the vehicle.

"Sadly in the State of New York there have to be laws on the books to deal with individuals who repeatedly endanger our roadways by driving intoxicated. Mr. Gardy has demonstrated that despite multiple chances to obey the laws of the road, he cannot be trusted to operate a motor vehicle on the same roadways that the rest of us travel on in Albany County. We thank the Court for designating him a persistent felon so that he does not get that chance again," commented Vehicular Crimes Unit Bureau Chief Mary Tanner-Richter who prosecuted this case.

For more information please contact the Albany County District Attorney's Office at [AlbanyDA@albanycountyny.gov](mailto:AlbanyDA@albanycountyny.gov).

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