



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
P. DAVID SOARES  
6 LODGE STREET  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207  
(518) 487-5460  
(518) 487-5093 FAX

**CONTACT:** ALBANY COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE (518) 487-5460  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** JULY 6, 2015

## **Guilty Plea from Drunk Driver**



**ALBANY, NY-** District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that WALTER PONCE, 40, of Watervliet, pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the First Degree, a Class E Felony, and (1) Count of Driving While Intoxicated, a Class E Felony, before the Honorable Judge Andrew Ceresia in Albany County Court on the morning of Thursday, July 2.

On July 6, 2014, at approximately 3:26 a.m., westbound on 19<sup>th</sup> Street in the City of Watervliet, PONCE was operating a black 2013 Nissan with his license suspended due to a previous DWI charge from 2013. PONCE was pulled over and had slurred speech and smelled like alcohol.

PONCE failed multiple Standard Field Sobriety Tests. Upon being taken to the police station, PONCE refused a breathalyzer.

PONCE faces 6 months in Albany County Jail to be followed by 5 years of probation, the installation of an Ignition Interlock Device for 5 years following his release from custody, a \$1,000 fine and a minimum of 12 months of license revocation, subject to the Department of Motor Vehicles, when sentenced on September 4, 2015.

Assistant District Attorney Melinda Sieden-Fiorino of the Vehicular Crimes Unit prosecuted this case.

For more information please contact the Albany County District Attorney's Office at (518) 487-5460.

###