



## OFFICE OF THE SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ATTORNEY

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**MARK S. RUBIN** COUNTY ATTORNEY

### NEWS RELEASE

February 8, 2018

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

### **Criminal vehicular homicide results in 41 month sentence**

The Honorable Dale O. Harris sentenced 19 year old Austin Darrell Hilden today to 41 months in prison after Hilden pled guilty in State District Court to one count of Criminal Vehicular Homicide and one count of Criminal Vehicular Operation causing Great Bodily Harm, St. Louis County Attorney Mark Rubin said.

The charges stemmed from a one-car accident on May 29, 2017 on the Rice Lake Road in St. Louis County. 19 year old Axton Dylan Whitfield was killed in the car accident, while three other occupants were also injured in the crash. Hilden's blood alcohol level was .147 at the time of the crash.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant St. Louis County Attorney Rebekka Stumme, who expressed these sentiments at sentencing: "Dylan Whitfield was, by all accounts, a bright and thoughtful young man with many people that loved him dearly. Dylan's family and friends have been devastated by his death. One can only hope that this case will help others to think twice before driving after drinking. I hope that all affected by this tragedy can find peace and healing in the future".

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