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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dayton Man Sentenced for Fatal Traffic Crash

State v. Joshua Sams, 2019-CR-2439

DAYTON, OH (03/24/2021) – Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck, Jr. announced that **JOSHUA OWEN SAMS**, 32, of Dayton, was sentenced to a minimum of 9 years in prison after being convicted on counts related to a traffic crash occurred on March 31, 2019, in which a Brookville woman was critically injured.

On Sunday, March 31, 2019, the defendant was driving on Westbrook Road in Perry Township. Witness statements indicate the defendant was swerving and crossed the centerline several times. Near the intersection with Wellbaum Road, the defendant's vehicle crossed the centerline and he struck another vehicle head-on. The driver of the other vehicle, 65 year old Virginia J. Steinhauser, of Brookville, was seriously injured and was taken to the hospital.

On February 14, 2020, the victim died as a result of complications from the injuries she sustained in the crash.

On March 11, 2021, the defendant was found guilty of Aggravated Vehicular Assault and Possession of Drugs.

Today, the defendant was sentenced to serve a minimum of 9 years in prison. Additionally, the court ordered that the defendant's driver's license be suspended for 10 years.

Prosecutor Heck added, "This defendant was driving even though his license was under multiple suspensions and he was under the influence of drugs. He crashed head-on into the victim's vehicle, causing her to suffer from serious injuries and ultimately her death."

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