



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
RICHMOND COUNTY

MICHAEL E. MCMAHON
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

130 STUYVESANT PLACE
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10301
TELEPHONE (718) 876-6300

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release on Friday October 14, 2016

Contact: Ryan Lavis (718) 556-7150
Ryan.Lavis@rcda.nyc.gov

D.A. McMahon: Off-duty officer convicted on all counts for fatally striking pedestrian

*** Off-duty police officer Joseph McClean struck and killed a pedestrian while driving impaired by alcohol***

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. – Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon today announced that JOSEPH MCCLEAN has been convicted of Criminally Negligent Homicide, Leaving the Scene of an Accident Without Reporting and Driving While Ability Impaired by Alcohol for striking and killing William Hemphill with his car.

MCCLEAN, 32, was convicted today following a five-week jury trial in Richmond County State Supreme Court, St. George, before Justice Mario F. Mattei. He faces a maximum of 7 years in prison for the charge of Leaving the Scene of an Accident Without Reporting and a maximum of 4 years in prison for the charge of Criminally Negligent Homicide when he is sentenced on December 12, 2016.

“We praise the jury for their diligence on this difficult case and we’re satisfied that justice has been served for Mr. Hemphill. Our thoughts and prayers remain with his family during this difficult time,” said District Attorney Michael E. McMahon. “I’d like to commend the hard work of ADA Mark Palladino, Trials Bureau Chief, and ADA Frank Prospero for securing a just conviction for the victim’s family and the people of Staten Island.”

According to a three-count indictment and documents filed in court, on Oct. 4, 2013, at approximately 6:15 a.m., MCCLEAN was driving on Richmond Terrace near Simonson Avenue when he struck and killed William Hemphill as he walked to work. The defendant fled the scene initially and then returned approximately 25 minutes later and was subsequently arrested.

====

The case was prosecuted by ADA Mark Palladino, Chief of the Trials Bureau, and ADA Frank Prospero.

====

-End-