



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

CONTACT: CECILIA WALSH (518) 275-4710
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Driver Evades Police, Pleads Guilty to DWI



ALBANY, NY - District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that **MICHAEL ROYEA**, 39, of Central Bridge, NY, pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Driving While Intoxicated, a Class E Felony, and (1) Count of Circumvention of an Interlock Device, a Class A Misdemeanor, before the Honorable William A. Carter in Albany County Court this morning.

On July 10, 2018, at approximately 11:25 PM, at the toll plaza on Interstate 90 and Interstate 87, ROYEA was driving his motor vehicle in an intoxicated state. During a traffic stop conducted by the New York State Police, ROYEA could not provide officers with identification, had odor of alcoholic beverage, physical signs of intoxication, and visible open containers in the vehicle. ROYEA was then asked to pull over to the side of the road, which he initially did, but then drove

off. He later drove off of the roadway and on to grass, ran away from his vehicle and was ultimately apprehended by police. ROYEA refused standardized field sobriety tests and chemical testing at the station.

In 2013, ROYEA was convicted of a misdemeanor driving while intoxicated charge requiring him to have an ignition interlock device installed in his vehicle. At the time of this incident, ROYEA admitted he was driving without a license and had no ignition interlock device installed in his vehicle.

ROYEA faces 1 to 3 years in State Prison and 1 year at the Albany County Correctional Facility to be merged with the State Prison sentence, when sentenced on March 13, 2019. Additionally, ROYEA will be subject to a minimum 1 year license revocation subject to the determinations of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, the installation of an ignition interlock device for 3 years upon release, and a \$1,000 fine.

Vehicular Crimes Bureau Chief Mary Tanner- Richter prosecuted this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh (518) 275-4710.

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