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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: OCTOBER 30, 2015

Drunk Driver Who Placed His Own Children at Risk is Sentenced



ALBANY, NY- District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that SANG YANG, 42, of Albany, was sentenced to time served in Albany County Jail, to be followed by 5 years of Felony Probation, before the Honorable Judge Peter A. Lynch in Albany County Court yesterday morning.

On September 3, 2015, YANG pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Driving While Intoxicated, Child in Vehicle, a Class E Felony.

On November 2, 2014, a person called 911 to report a possible drunk driver. The person stayed with the car until police could arrive. At approximately 11:55 p.m., YANG was stopped by the New York State Police after someone had called about his driving. He had been driving the wrong way on Alternate Route 7. Upon being stopped, YANG had physical signs of intoxication, admitted to drinking, and failed the Standardized Field Sobriety Tests. Nearly 1 ½ hours after being stopped, YANG registered a Blood Alcohol Content of .13.

This is a Leandra's Law case as YANG was driving with his two children in the vehicle, ages 6 and 7.

“Leandra Law cases are particularly troubling because the drunk drivers are putting at risk the lives of children too young to make any choices,” said DA Soares. “6 and 7 year old children have no ability to detect the danger of getting in a car with a drunk driver, nor do they have options if they did. Further harm to these children was prevented by the courage of the witness to notify police and stay with the vehicle until help could arrive.”

In addition to his probation sentence, YANG must also pay a \$1,000 fine, be subject to a driver's license revocation for a minimum of 18 months subject to the Department of Motor Vehicles, be subject to Ignition Interlock Restriction for 5 years, and complete 30 days of community service.

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

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

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