



NEWS RELEASE

March 17, 2017
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Driver who Hit Woman on a Scooter while on DUI Probation Sentenced to 9 Years

Spencer Ray Rauch was sentenced to nine years in prison Friday for hitting a woman on a scooter and leaving her for dead last July.

Rauch (DOB 07/01/89) had left a bar when he hit 25-year-old Amber Pennington on her scooter at Federal Boulevard near 65th Place in Adams County and then drove off, leaving her for dead at about 2 a.m. on July 1, 2016. Pennington suffered fractures to her pelvis, spine, nose and ribs. Officers estimated the speed of Rauch's vehicle at 53 mph, while Pennington's scooter was estimated to be traveling at 23 miles per hour. The posted speed limit was 30 mph.

Deputy District Attorney Natalie Scarpella told the judge at the sentencing hearing in Adams County District Court that Rauch fled the scene and then, with the help of his father, James Rauch, spent the next few weeks covering up what he did. He reported his license plates as stolen and got new plates on his car, did body work to hide the damage to the car and made up an elaborate story when police eventually came to question him.

The case may have gone unsolved without the hard work of the Colorado State Patrol and reports of neighbors who saw what Spencer a Rauch and his father were doing, Scarpella said,

Spencer Rauch, of Federal Heights, was on DUI probation for a March 14, 2015 incident at the time he hit Pennington and was involved in another hit and run in April 2016, just months before this occurred.

He pleaded guilty in January to leaving the scene of an accident involving serious bodily injury (F4), and misdemeanor charges of perjury and reckless driving. He pleaded guilty to one count of hit and run in the previous hit and run case and admitted to violating probation for his 2015 DUI case.

James Rauch (DOB 09/11/61) is charged with attempting to influence a public servant (F4), two counts of accessory to crime (F5) and tampering with physical evidence (F6). His case is set for trial in August.

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