



CHRISTIAN COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 26, 2011

**RE: STATE V. TRAVIS BISHOP
10CT-CR01077-01**

OZARK, MO - Christian County Prosecuting Attorney, Amy J. Fite announced today that TRAVIS BISHOP, dob: 4/3/1991 of Rogersville, Missouri plead guilty to two counts of the class C felony of assault in the second degree and one count of the class D felony of leaving the scene of an accident in front of Christian County Circuit Judge Mark Orr.

The case was to proceed to jury trial on September 26, 2010. Prior to the beginning of trial, TRAVIS BISHOP entered an open plea. There was no plea agreement and sentencing will be determined by the court. The State was ready to proceed and was prepared to go to trial.

On August 10, 2010, TRAVIS BISHOP was operating a 1997 Nissan on State highway U. There were 3 passengers inside the vehicle. The Missouri Highway Patrol determined that the defendant was driving too fast for the road condition. Two of the passengers sustained serious injuries including one who may be permanently paralyzed from the waist down. Before help arrived at the scene, TRAVIS BISHOP left the scene and returned to his home. He ultimately turned himself into law enforcement.

In response to the plea of guilty, Christian County Prosecuting Attorney Amy J. Fite stated, "The Prosecutor's Office was ready to proceed to jury trial and the defendant chose instead to exercise his right to plead guilty. I am glad the defendant accepted responsibility without the victims having to go through the stress of re-living the events during a trial."

Formal sentencing in the matter is set for November 18, 2011. The class C felony of assault in the second degree has a range of punishment of one (1) day to one (1) year in the Christian County Jail, or up to seven (7) years in the Missouri Department of Corrections, and/or a fine not to exceed \$5,000. The class D felony of leaving the scene of a motor vehicle accident has a range of punishment of one (1) day to one (1) year in the Christian County Jail, or up to four (4) years in the Missouri Department of Corrections, and/or a fine not to exceed \$5,000.