



**CHRISTIAN COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

**AMY J. FITE, PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**

Phone: (417) 581-7915 | Fax: (417) 581-7918

[www.christiancountyprosecutor.net](http://www.christiancountyprosecutor.net)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT: PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
ANNA L. BUNCH, ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
417-581-7915**

**DATE: JANUARY 13, 2014**

**RE: AARON CAMPBELL PLEADS GUILTY AND RECEIVES 10 YEARS FOR  
CHARGES ARISING OUT OF POLICE PURSUIT IN JULY 2013**

OZARK, MO – The Christian County Prosecuting Attorney's Office announces that Aaron Campbell, dob: 04-30-1989, pleaded guilty to five counts in front of the Honorable Judge Mark Orr on January 10, 2014. Aaron Campbell pleaded guilty as a prior and persistent felony offender to Assault of a Law Enforcement Officer in the Second Degree, class C felony; Possession of a Controlled Substance, class C felony; Resisting a Lawful Stop, class D felony; Property Damage in the First Degree, class D felony, and Tampering in the First Degree, class C felony.

The range of punishment for a class C felony is one day up to seven (7) years incarceration and/or a fine not to exceed \$5000. The range of punishment for a class D felony is one day up to four (4) years incarceration and/or fine not to exceed \$5000. Since the Defendant pleaded guilty as a prior and persistent felony offender that increased the range of punishment of the class C felony charges up to 15 years incarceration and the class D charges up to 7 years incarceration.

Per the terms of the plea agreement, Aaron Campbell received a total of 10 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. Campbell received 10 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections on the charges of Assault of a Law Enforcement Officer in the Second Degree, Possession of a Controlled Substance, and Tampering in the First Degree. Campbell received 7 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections on the charges of Resisting a Lawful Stop and Property Damage in the First Degree. All counts are to run concurrently to each other.

The State dismissed misdemeanor counts of driving while suspended, possession of marijuana, and possession of drug paraphernalia as part of the plea agreement.

At the time of plea the State alleged the following facts could be proved beyond a reasonable doubt at trial:

On July 20, 2013, Officer Dye with the Nixa Police Department was traveling southbound on US 160 in a marked patrol vehicle and observed a maroon Dodge vehicle traveling in front of him make a traffic violation and then attempted to stop the vehicle. The driver, Aaron Campbell, failed to stop and fled.

STATE V. AARON R CAMPBELL

Campbell drove through several streets in Nixa ignoring numerous traffic control devices, traveling on the wrong side of the roadway, and driving at excessive speeds. Campbell drove east onto Missouri Highway 14 into Ozark where Ozark Police Department assisted in the pursuit. Officers observed Campbell continue to speed and drive recklessly. At one point, Campbell came to a dead end and turned around and drove through a yard and fence, causing over \$750 in property damage. Campbell also struck an Ozark Police Department patrol vehicle that was occupied by Cpl. Shonda Jackson.

The pursuit continued into Greene County where Greene County Sheriff deputies and Springfield Police officers assisted. Campbell was taken into custody after spike strips were deployed and deflated his tires.

Located inside the vehicle were several clear plastic baggies containing a powdery residue, which was tested by the Missouri State Highway Crime Lab as methamphetamine, a schedule II controlled substance.

Later, officers also found out that the Dodge vehicle being driven by Campbell was taken without the owner's permission. Officers also learned that Campbell had an active warrant for his arrest.

Charges, including the class B felony of assault of a law enforcement officer in the second degree and misdemeanor property damage, are pending in Greene County. These pending charges are merely allegations and Campbell is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in court.

Campbell's two prior felony convictions making him a prior and persistent felony offender were for Tampering in the First Degree, one for an offense occurring on December 1, 2012, and another for an offense occurring on September 9, 2012.