

Blankenship Pleads to Vehicular Homicide

Written by Debbie Gregory
Tuesday, August 6, 2013



Christopher Blankenship plead guilty to vehicular homicide before Judge John Wootten on Wednesday, July 31. He was sentenced to eight years for the death of his 17-year-old girlfriend, Britni Hyso, who was a passenger on his motorcycle that he wrecked several miles outside of Lafayette on Friday, March 23, 2012. His sentence will be served at Turney Center, a state penitentiary in Only, Tennessee.

In the early spring of 2012, Britni Rose Hyson, of the Shiloh Community, was riding on a Yamaha motorcycle with her fiancé, 30-year-old Christopher Blankenship, when he lost control and ran off Shiloh Road. Sustaining fatal injuries, she was pronounced dead at 8:35 p.m. by Medical Investigator Randall Kirby.

Blankenship was charged with driving while license revoked, motor driver cycle helmet required, leaving the scene of an accident knowing death resulted, vehicular homicide driver intoxicated, aggravated vehicular homicide, and probation violation.

He was already on probation for a DUI when this accident happened. He was picked up on a violation of probation charge and sent to a correctional facility after his probation was revoked. According to the Clerk's Office, he was brought back to the Macon County Jail on July 1st so he could meet with his attorneys. He was returned to Turney Center after his sentence last Wednesday. He is serving a three-year sentence for the probation violation, with a total of 11 years to be served altogether.

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“Christopher Blankenship took responsibility for his actions that caused the death of Britni Hyso,” said Assistant District Attorney Justin Harris. “Without the hard work of the Tennessee Highway Patrol and the Macon County Sheriffs Office we may not have ever known how that crash occurred. But thanks to those officers it was shown that Mr. Blankenship was too intoxicated to be on our roadways and that intoxication caused the crash that killed Ms. Hyso. Hopefully with the close of this criminal case the families that have been affected by this tragedy can begin to heal.”