

District Attorney Marc Bennett  
18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Kansas



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For Immediate Release, April 5, 2019

**WICHITA, KAN.** – A man has been sentenced to prison following a traffic death near Derby. This afternoon, Judge Christopher Magana sentenced Joe Ellis, 24 of Wichita, to 109 months in prison. On February 1<sup>st</sup> of this year, a jury found Ellis guilty of involuntary manslaughter and aggravated battery.

On August 22, 2017, a westbound car driven by Ellis ran the stop sign at K-15 and 55<sup>th</sup> Street South. The car struck a southbound pickup driven by Thomas Toon of Burden who survived his injuries. Mark Standerfer, 33 of Mulvane, was a passenger in the car driven by Ellis and died of his injuries on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Witnesses told Sedgwick County Sheriff deputies that Ellis' car was moving at a very high rate of speed when he ran the stop sign. Ellis was found to have methamphetamine in his bloodstream.

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