



Maricopa County Attorney

ANDREW P. THOMAS

301 W. JEFFERSON, SUITE 800
PHOENIX, AZ 85003
www.maricopacountyattorney.org

PH. (602) 506-3411
TDD (602) 506-4352
FAX (602) 506-8102

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 24, 2009

For more information contact:

Mike Anthony Scerbo, Public Information Officer
(602) 506-3170 (office) or (602) 489-6913 (cell)

George Aguilera Found Guilty of Aggravated Assault *Former DPS Officer Caused Injury to Motorcyclist in 2007 I-17 Collision*

County Attorney Andrew Thomas announced today that former DPS officer George Aguilera, 52 (DOB 9/19/56), has been found guilty of aggravated assault for a May 2007 collision on the I-17 highway in which a car driven by Aguilera struck a motorcyclist. A jury found Aguilera guilty of one count of Aggravated Assault, a class three dangerous felony on February 20, 2009. Aguilera faces a prison term of 5 to 15 years when he is sentenced on April 24, 2009 in the courtroom of Judge Michael Kemp.

According to a Department of Public Service probable cause statement, on May 4, 2007, at approximately 1:20 a.m., Aguilera, who was off duty, struck a motorcyclist on southbound Interstate 17 with the car he was driving. The motorcycle rider was thrown from the motorcycle and subsequently run over by a tractor-trailer combination. The victim sustained multiple fractures and internal injuries as a result of the collision and his right leg had to be amputated.

Further to the probable cause statement, the odor of an alcoholic beverage was on Aguilera's breath. A search warrant for Aguilera's blood was obtained. The blood alcohol level was tested nearly 4 ½ hours after the crash and indicated to be a .057. A retrograde result for the 2 hours leading up to the crash was at .091 per the Department of Public Safety Crime lab.

"Drunk driving by this former law-enforcement officer caused severe injuries to an innocent victim," said Thomas. "No one is above the law, as this defendant has learned."

Deputy County Attorney S. Rene McGregor prosecuted the case.

###