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Rosemond Man Found Guilty of Driving Four Times the Legal Alcohol Limit
People v. Brian Ellis: Kern County Superior Court Case MM102165A

(Bakersfield) – Kern County District Attorney has announced a DUI conviction on August 24, 2023. In a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Steven Barile, a Kern County Jury found Brian Ellis guilty of Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol, Driving with a Blood Alcohol Level of 0.08 Percent or More, and found true the enhancement that Ellis had a .15 Percent Blood Alcohol Level or Higher.

On September 22, 2022, after consuming alcohol, Ellis and a passenger drove to a convenience store in Rosemond to pick up cigarettes. Ellis pulled into the parking lot and stumbled out of his vehicle, falling onto the ground where he remained for approximately 40 minutes, unable to get up due to his level of intoxication. Multiple witnesses saw Ellis drive into the parking lot and exit his vehicle. One of the witnesses called 911 to report Ellis, while another removed the keys from Ellis' vehicle. Kern County Sheriff's Deputies arrived on the scene, finding Ellis seated in his vehicle and immediately noticed signs and symptoms of intoxication. Ellis was ordered out of his vehicle and California Highway Patrol Officers were called to conduct a DUI investigation, finding Ellis to be too impaired to safely operate a motor vehicle. Ellis was arrested and submitted to a chemical breath test, indicating that his Blood Alcohol Content was a .305, almost four times the legal limit.

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer is urging residents to never drive an automobile while intoxicated and to call 911 if they witness a dangerous driver on the road. "The community members who stepped forward are to be commended. Every year, families grieve the loss of their loved ones who were killed in a DUI related incident. While I am grateful that no innocent victims were involved, this incident could have had a different outcome if it weren't for the proactive and concerned community members. Remember, before drinking, plan to have a designated, sober driver."

Sentencing is set for August 31, 2023. Ellis faces a sentence of up to one year in jail.