

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 9, 2010

NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN RECEIVES 10-YEAR PRISON TERM FOR FELONY DUI

A North Carolina woman received a 10-year prison sentence today after she took responsibility for an alcohol and drug-related wreck that injured a child.

Amber B. McGill, 31, of Grover, pleaded guilty to felony driving under the influence with great bodily injury. McGill drove under the influence of alcohol, marijuana and Xanax when she caused the Aug. 28, 2009 wreck I-85 that injured 14-year-old Taylor Francis of Cary, NC.

Witnesses reported seeing McGill speed and weave through traffic prior to the 8:30 p.m. wreck. McGill lost control of her late-model Mercedes in the northbound lane when she attempted to pass two cars in the emergency lane. McGill's car crossed the cable barrier and hit a southbound car carrying Francis and her mother. Two other southbound cars sustained minor damage in the wreck.

McGill's blood alcohol reading was .097.

"We are lucky the wreck wasn't any worse than it was," Principal Deputy Solicitor Barry Barnette said. "Ms. McGill's reckless actions could have easily claimed several lives."

McGill was driving with a suspended license and she wasn't insured. Her criminal record included two convictions for drug offenses.

Circuit Judge Mark Hayes' sentence includes a \$5,000 fine and \$21,750 in restitution for the medical bills.

For more information, contact Murray Glenn at 809-4892.

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