



OFFICE OF
STATE ATTORNEY
FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

July 11, 2014

PRESS RELEASE

State Attorney Bill Eddins announced Gene Anthony Elsperman was convicted by an Escambia County Jury on July 10, 2014 for Shooting at an Occupied Vehicle, two counts of Aggravated Assault by Threat with a Firearm (actual possession with discharge), Discharging a Firearm, and Using a Firearm while under the Influence. Following the verdict, Circuit Judge Michael Jones sentenced Elsperman to 40 years state prison.

On December 3, 2013, the Defendant became involved in an argument with his two roommates Edward Beard and Sean Rennie. When Mr. Rennie and Mr. Beard attempted drive off the property, the Defendant stepped in front of the vehicle. When Mr. Rennie drove around the Defendant, Elsperman pulled out his gun and fired 6 shots at the vehicle. Deputy Mark Eddins responded and made contact with the Defendant. Mr. Elsperman stated that after he had been struck by the vehicle, he fired his gun in self-defense. The Defendant had been drinking throughout the day.

The investigation and arrest were conducted by the Escambia County Sheriff's Office. Assistant State Attorney Jeremiah Monahan prosecuted the case. For further information, please contact him at (850) 595-4392.