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DONTE STALLWORTH SENTENCED IN TRAFFIC DEATH NFL FOOTBALL PLAYER TAKEN INTO CUSTODY AFTER PLEADING GUILTY

Miami (June 16, 2009) - Donte Stallworth, a member of the Cleveland Browns football team, pled guilty this morning in a Miami-Dade Circuit Court in the traffic death of Mario Reyes. Mr. Stallworth was criminally charged with DUI Manslaughter in April of this year after an intensive investigation by the Miami Beach Police Department and the State Attorney's Office. Mr. Reyes was struck and killed as he attempted to walk across the MacArthur Causeway by a black Bentley GT driven by Mr. Stallworth. At the time of the accident, the field sobriety investigation conducted by Miami Beach Police officers indicated that Mr. Stallworth's blood alcohol level was .126. Florida's legal limit is .080.

State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle issued this statement: "Every case that we prosecute, especially those that involve the death of a human being, is closely scrutinized to ensure that a fair and just resolution is reached for all parties. We have specifically looked at the unique facts involved with this charge, Mr. Stallworth's excellent pre-incident history of community service, abundant references that attest to his good character, his lack of any traffic violations or criminal convictions, his full and complete post-incident cooperation with law enforcement, and his willingness to accept complete responsibility for his actions. For all of these reasons, a just resolution of this case has been reached. The terms of the plea have been agreed upon between the State Attorney's office and the police, and has been extended with the full endorsement and consent of the Reyes family, who believe that this plea and its timing are in the best interest of their 15 year old daughter, the sole remaining child of Mario Reyes. Although no sentence can ever restore Mr. Reyes to his family, the provisions of this plea will provide closure to them and appropriate punishment for Mr. Stallworth's conduct and the effects of his actions that night."



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Donte Stallworth pled guilty before Judge Dennis Murphy as charged in the one count information filed by the State Attorney's Office to the crime of DUI Manslaughter, a second-degree felony. Mr. Stallworth was adjudicated guilty and sentenced to 30 days in the Dade County Jail to be followed by:

- 2 years of community control (house arrest)
- 8 years of reporting probation with the following special conditions:
 1. drug and alcohol evaluation and treatment if recommended
 2. random drug testing
 3. lifetime driver's license suspension and no driving
 4. \$2,500 donation to MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving)
 5. \$2,500 donation to "Parents of Murdered Children"
 6. 1,000 hours of community service and all community service projects will be performed with the input and consent of the State Attorney's Office. These may include Public Service Announcements and speaking engagements with children about the danger and risks associated with drugs, alcohol, and driving, and how this case has affected him.
 7. Cost Recovery to the Miami Beach Police Department in the amount of \$1,842.88
 8. Cost Recovery to Miami-Dade Police Department in the amount of \$813.14
 9. Court Costs of \$583.00

After the sentence was pronounced, Mr. Stallworth was immediately taken into custody to begin serving his jail term.

To express your concerns or opinion please e-mail: Comments@MiamiSAO.com

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