



## ELLIS COUNTY & DISTRICT ATTORNEY

PATRICK M. WILSON

ELLIS COUNTY COURTS BUILDING • 109 S. JACKSON • WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165 • (972) 825-5035 • FAX (972) 825-5047

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Contact: Ann Montgomery, 972-825-5035 ([ann.montgomery@co.ellis.tx.us](mailto:ann.montgomery@co.ellis.tx.us))

### **JURY SENTENCES REPEAT DWI OFFENDER TO 8 YEARS**

On April 20, 2016, an Ellis County jury sentenced Kristi Dawn Barrett, 35, of Waxahachie, to 8 years in prison for the felony offense of Driving While Intoxicated 3<sup>rd</sup> or More. The maximum punishment is 10 years.

At 8:40 p.m. on November 28, 2014, in the 600 block of Farley Street, in Waxahachie, Barrett was driving erratically, and she crashed her vehicle into a ditch. Several witnesses came to her aid and testified that she pleaded with them to take the alcoholic beverages she had in her vehicle. Barrett asked one of the witnesses to say that they were driving instead of her. Suspecting that she might be intoxicated, the witness called 911. Barrett fled the scene before Waxahachie police officers arrived, but she was later found hiding behind a nearby building. Barrett denied driving, refused to perform field sobriety tests and also refused to provide a sample of her blood for testing. Pursuant to Ellis County's no refusal policy, officers obtained a search warrant for Barrett's blood. Analysis showed a blood alcohol concentration of .204, almost three times that of the legal limit.

Prior to this arrest Barrett was convicted in 2007 for Driving While Intoxicated with a Child Passenger, a felony, and again in 2014 for Driving While Intoxicated 2<sup>nd</sup>, a misdemeanor.

After hearing testimony regarding Barrett's persistent use of alcohol, and her past failed attempts at rehabilitation, the jury assessed a punishment of 8 years in prison. Because of her prior felony conviction, community supervision was not an option for Barrett.

Prosecutors Habon Mohamed and Jake Heffernan would like to thank the citizens who alerted the police of Barrett's driving and later testified at trial.

