



**Stephen B. Tyler**  
CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
205 N. BRIDGE, SUITE 301  
VICTORIA, TEXAS 77901-8085  
Phone: (361) 575-0468  
Fax: (361) 576-4139



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT: Steve Tyler  
(361) 649-9644

## **VICTORIA JURY FINDS MAN GUILTY OF DWI AFTER SINGLE CAR CRASH**

On Wednesday, April 26, 2017, a Victoria County jury convicted Alexander Chen Shu, of Driving While Intoxicated with a blood alcoholic content of .15 or greater. At trial, the Defendant was represented by Constance Filley Johnson. The state of Texas and County of Victoria was represented by ACDA Alton James III, and ACDA Veronica L. Jones, who presented evidence showing that on or about August 29, 2015 around 3:00 a.m., the Defendant was driving intoxicated off of airline road and was involved in an accident where his vehicle struck a curb and sustained severe damage.

Victoria Police Officer Jonathan Delarosa responded to the scene and was the main arresting officer. Officer Delarosa testified for the State, and provided several key details for the jury about his investigation. During the course of investigating the car crash, Officer Delarosa noticed several signs of intoxication including but not limited to the Defendant admitting he drank 2 pints of beer, had red glossy eyes, spoke with slurred speech, and the Defendant's failing of several standardized field sobriety tests. Further, during the course of the investigation and prosecution, it was brought to light that the Defendant had a blood alcohol content of .258, which is over three times the legal limit. Despite the lack of any evidence supporting the claim, the defense blamed epilepsy for the defendant's intoxication. In closing argument ACDA Alton James III emphasized to the jury that the Defendant was the sole cause of his intoxication, and that any attempt to cast blame of his intoxication on possible medical conditions, nervousness, or scientific distractions was merely a smoke screen attempting to hide the truth from the jurors. The jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty within 20 minutes.

This is ACDA James' 8<sup>th</sup> trial. He was quoted as saying "This was a tough case. The problem with intoxication cases is that more times than not, people don't look significantly intoxicated and some see it as a victimless crime; despite the frequency of fatalities. Intoxicated drivers are a danger to themselves and anyone unfortunate enough to be in the wrong place at the wrong time, which is wherever the drunk driver wanders." He went on to say, "Listen, the Defense argued that the Defendant had epilepsy, was nervous, and that everyone from the officer down to the scientific lab which tested his blood made mistakes, everyone but her client was at fault. The jurors understand that too frequently, too many, drive too intoxicated, which too often results in tragedy. Jurors can rely on their good sense, scientific evidence, eye witness testimony, and other evidence produced at trial. Good jurors are not distracted by speculation, supposition and arguments not supported by evidence. Really, I'm just glad no one was hurt and that justice was done."

