

**COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**



**THOMAS J. SPOTA
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

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Sentencing Tuesday in Central Islip for man responsible for grandfather's death in DWI crash

An East Patchogue man arrested and indicted last summer for DWI, vehicular manslaughter and vehicular assault for causing a crash that killed his 77-year old grandfather is scheduled for sentencing in Central Islip tomorrow morning, Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota said.

Gary Hendricks, 45, was driving a 1999 Chevrolet Suburban on Sunrise Highway in Patchogue on the evening of July 22 when he rear-ended a pickup truck and lost control, overturning on the shoulder of the highway several times, DA Spota said.

"The defendant told police he was driving - even though he did not have license - because his passengers had more to drink than the two beers he had," DA Spota said.

The district attorney said a chemical analysis of the suspect's blood showed he had a blood alcohol content of .17 hours after the fatal crash.

Hendricks pleaded guilty to all of the charges in the indictment; vehicular manslaughter, vehicular assault, driving while intoxicated and aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and is expected to be sentenced by State Supreme Court Justice Fernando Camacho to four to eight years in state prison.

District Attorney Spota said prosecutors will recommend a sentenced of up to 12 years' incarceration upstate.

Justice Camacho will call the court calendar at 9:30 am.



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