OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY
MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Thomas D. Gibbons
State's Attorney

157 North Main Street
Suite 402
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

Voice: 618 692-6280
Facsimile: 618 296-7001
www.madco-sa.org

Contact: Stephanee Smith
618/692-6280; **@MadisonCoSAO**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 19, 2013

PRESS RELEASE

Edwardsville— State's Attorney Tom Gibbons announced that an Aviston man pleaded guilty today for his role in a fatal car accident that left one woman dead and another severely injured. James L. Griesbaum (d.o.b. 3/24/77) pleaded guilty this morning to one count of Aggravated DUI Resulting in Death and one count of Aggravated DUI Resulting in Great Bodily Harm.

Griesbaum had been on trial with closing arguments expected this afternoon when he pleaded guilty to charges relating to the fatal car accident that occurred on Route 160 near Highland on February 16, 2010. Barbara K. Green, 56, was killed and Ressie M. Woodcock, 82, was seriously injured when Griesbaum's Ford F-150 truck crossed into an oncoming lane of traffic and collided with the Dodge Dakota truck driven by Green. She was taken to St. Louis University Hospital where she was pronounced dead. Both victims, who were mother and daughter, were from Trenton.

Following his plea, Griesbaum was sentenced to 42 months in prison on each count with the sentences running concurrently. Griesbaum, who had been out of bond, was ordered to report to the Madison County Jail in Edwardsville on July 26th to begin his prison sentence.

Jury selection began on Tuesday, July 16th with opening statements the following morning. Assistant State's Attorneys Crystal Uhe and James Buckley prosecuted the case in front of Circuit Judge Kyle Napp. William Berry and Jason Corray represented the defendant. Officers with the Illinois State Police investigated the case.

###