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Sentencing is delayed in Greece teen's DWI case

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The sentencing of a Greece teenager who drove drunk and crashed into two homes was postponed Monday because of a question over restitution.

Brandon S. Volpe, 19, was scheduled to be sentenced for his guilty pleas to a felony of first-degree reckless endangerment and a misdemeanor of driving while intoxicated.

But the proceeding was adjourned until July 18 when his lawyer, Edward L. Fiandach, questioned how restitution would be made to the homeowners.

A presentence investigation suggested that acting Monroe County Court Judge Thomas Rainbow Morse order restitution of \$77,062. But Fiandach said the homeowners would recover their losses more quickly if they file claims against insurance policies held by Volpe's parents.

Morse granted the delay to allow Fiandach to discuss the issue with the District Attorney's Office.

Volpe was drunk and was traveling at more than twice the 25 mph posted limit on Old Edgemere Drive on April 26, 2006, when his car hit two telephone poles, struck the front porch of 1005 Edgemere Drive, then continued into the first floor of 1007 Edgemere Drive.

The occupants of 1007 Edgemere were asleep upstairs. Their house had to be torn down.

Volpe's blood-alcohol content was 0.11 percent, above the level of 0.08 percent needed to bring a DWI charge. As a condition of his plea, he has agreed to cooperate in a civil action against store owners who sold him and friends rum and two 30-packs of beer.

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Background

Brandon Volpe faces a sentence that could include weekends in jail, five years' probation, revocation of his driver's license, and restitution. He is eligible for youthful offender status, which would seal his criminal record.

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