



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SETTLEMENT REACHED IN BRANDON ELLINGSON FEDERAL LAWSUIT**

**State of Missouri to pay \$9 million dollars to settle civil suit**

On November 14, 2016 the State of Missouri agreed to pay the Estate of Brandon Ellingson and Sherry, Craig, and Jennifer Ellingson the sum of \$9 million dollars to settle the lawsuit filed in federal court against the Missouri Highway Patrol, Trooper Anthony Piercy, and several other Defendants on December 5, 2014. The lawsuit was filed after the tragic and unnecessary drowning death of their beloved son and brother, Brandon, while in the custody of the Missouri Highway Patrol on May 31, 2014.

The Ellingsons wish to express their deep and sincere appreciation to the tens of thousands of people in Iowa, Missouri, Arizona, and across the country who have supported them during this very difficult time. No amount of money will lessen the suffering that the Ellingson family, relatives, and friends have endured since his death two and a half years ago. The family established a memorial at Valley Stadium and supported a scholarship at Valley High School in West Des Moines, Iowa to make certain that Brandon will never be forgotten.

The Ellingsons now look to the Missouri state court to ensure that the manslaughter charges pending against Piercy are prosecuted expeditiously and fairly and that Piercy never again serves as a law enforcement officer. Justice for Brandon will be achieved by ensuring public safety in Missouri.

Tom Burke and Jerry Spaeth, Whitfield & Eddy Law, and Matt Boles, Parrish Kruidenier, represented the Ellingson family. Attorney Joseph Swift, Brown & James, P.C., St. Louis, Missouri, was jointly retained by the plaintiffs to serve as Missouri associate counsel. The unique and considerable experience of attorneys in the three firms litigated on behalf of the family and memory of Brandon Ellingson.

Whitfield & Eddy, P.L.C. is a 46-attorney law firm based in Des Moines, Iowa with an office in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. Parrish Kruidenier is a full service law firm based in Des Moines, Iowa. Brown & James, P.C., is a law firm with more than 100 attorneys based in St. Louis, Missouri with seven locations in Missouri, Illinois, Kansas, and Arkansas. Whitfield & Eddy and Brown & James are members of ALFA International, a global network of independent law firms.

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