

CARLINVILLE – Macoupin County State’s Attorney Jennifer A. Watson announced today that charges have been filed in the destruction of the WWI Soldier Statute of Everett C. Burton at the Sulphur Springs Cemetery. Joshua S. Brown (7/31/1991) of Virden and Douglas S. Cordray (2/04/1991) of Girard have been charged with one count of Unlawful Vandalization of a Gravestone. Judge Joshua A. Meyer set the bond for each at \$25,000 with 10% to apply.

Unlawful Vandalization of a Gravestone is a class four felony with a sentencing guideline of up to 3 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

“The alleged actions of these individuals disrespect not only the memory of Everett C. Burton, who gave his life in service of our country, but all members of our military,” said State’s Attorney Watson. “This blatant disrespect for the final resting place of our communities’ loved ones will be met with the full force of the law.”

The public is reminded that a defendant is presumed innocent. This information contains only charges and is not proof of the defendant’s guilt.