

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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Solicitor
W. Walter Wilkins

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

May 29, 2013

**Pickens Man Sentenced on Sex / Lewd Act, Committing Or Attempting Lewd Act
Upon Child Under Sixteen**

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that EDGAR BARTHOLMEN MERRIFIELD, age 64, was convicted on May 29, 2013 by a Pickens County jury of Committing Or Attempting Lewd Act Upon Child Under 16 years of age. Merrfield was sentenced to 12 years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections by the Honorable George C. James.

Evidence presented at the trial by Assistant Solicitor Jenny Barwick established that between October 2007 and April 2010, EDGAR BARTHOLMEN MERRIFIELD, on multiple occasions, touched a child on his genitals and buttocks. The child was between the ages of five and eight at the times of the abuse.