

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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Solicitor
W. Walter Wilkins

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

March 24, 2016

Pickens Man Sentenced on Murder

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that DEBY LEE BURNSIDE, age 57, was convicted on March 24, 2016 by a Pickens County jury of Murder and sentenced to 30 years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections without the possibility of parole by the Honorable Alexander S. Macaulay.

Evidence presented at the trial by Assistant Solicitor Baker Cleveland established that on August 6, 2014, DEBY LEE BURNSIDE shot and killed James Cherry. Cherry, who was unarmed, was killed as he sat on his riding lawnmower in the defendant's driveway following an argument about work Cherry had performed for the defendant, which Cherry had not been paid for. The shooting occurred in the early evening, and multiple eyewitnesses in the neighborhood testified in the trial to watching Burnside shoot and kill Cherry.