

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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Solicitor
W. Walter Wilkins

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

December 13, 2011

Greenville Man Sentenced on Murder, Attempted Murder & Burglary 1st Degree

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that DEANGELO GILLIAM, age 43, pled guilty on December 13, 2011 to charges of Murder, Attempted Murder and Burglary 1st degree, and was sentenced by the Honorable Edward Miller to 40 years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections. He was sentenced to 40 years on the murder, 40 years for Burglary 1st degree and 30 years for attempted murder, all to be served concurrently. DEANGELO GILLIAM will have to serve every day of his sentence, as he is not eligible for parole.

Evidence presented at the plea hearing established that at 9:00 p.m. on November 20, 2010, DEANGELO GILLIAM went to the residence of his ex-girlfriend, Telola Wofford, in Greenville County. A home health care worker who was at the residence assisting with a disabled child advised the Defendant that the victim, Ms. Wofford, was not home and that he should leave. The Defendant then forced his way past the health care worker and entered the residence with a loaded .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol. He went to the back bedroom where he found Victim Telola Wofford braiding the hair of Victim Sean Taylor, a long time school friend who was in Greenville from out of state to visit various people. The Defendant, with his weapon drawn, ordered the two victims out of the home. The Defendant accused Wofford of having an affair with Mr. Taylor, and both victims began trying to explain to the Defendant that they were just old school friends and that nothing romantic was going on between them. Again the Defendant ordered them out of the home, and they complied. Also present in the house at the time was Wofford's 13 year old son and a toddler child who was being fostered by Ms.

Wofford. Once outside, the Defendant ordered Mr. Taylor to leave. However, as Mr. Taylor was attempting to get in his car and leave, the Defendant shot Mr. Taylor five times in the chest area and he died at the scene. After shooting Mr. Taylor, the Defendant turned the gun on Ms. Wofford and began firing at her as she was trying to get away. She was shot once in the shoulder and once in the abdomen. As a result of her abdominal wound, Ms. Wofford had to have multiple surgeries to repair the damage to her liver, colon and stomach. She was in the hospital for months, and continues to receive medical attention for her injuries. The Defendant then fled the area, but later turned himself in to the Durham, North Carolina police department on November 24, 2010. Deputies with the Greenville County Sheriff's Office went to the Durham Police Department and interviewed the Defendant, wherein he admitted to the shootings. He also led the Deputies to the location where he had buried the pistol, and ballistics testing confirmed that it was the murder weapon. The 13 year old son of Wofford also witnessed the shootings, and gave a written statement to law enforcement. The case was investigated by the Greenville County Sheriff's Office and prosecuted by Deputy Solicitor Betty Strom.