

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Greenville Man Sentenced on Sex/Criminal Sexual Conduct – First Degree

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that MATTHEW SCOTT HENDSBEE, age 24, pled guilty to Criminal Sexual Conduct-First Degree, Kidnapping and Assault & Battery of a High and Aggravated Nature at the conclusion of the State's three days of presentation of evidence against him during his trial on Wednesday July 20, 2011. As a result of the plea, the Honorable Robin Stilwell sentenced MATTHEW SCOTT HENDSBEE to 18 years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections. MATTHEW SCOTT HENDSBEE will have to serve at least 85% of the 18 year sentence before he is eligible for parole.

Evidence presented at the trial by Assistant Solicitor Kris Hodge established that on December 26, 2009, MATTHEW SCOTT HENDSBEE, a former boyfriend of the victim, met the victim in the parking lot of her mother's apartment located in the City of Greer where he proceeded to kick and punch her in the face and body after she told him the relationship was over. HENDSBEE then forced her into his car and drove her to his apartment located in Greenville County. While transporting her he threatened her life as well as her children's lives if she tried to run. Upon arriving to his apartment he forced the victim into his apartment and then raped her. After the rape occurred, he then took her back to her mother's house where she immediately notified police. The case was handled by Kris Hodge, head of the Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Unit of the 13th Circuit Solicitor's office, which was formed in February of 2011. The Unit consists of five attorneys who specialize in the prosecution of sexual assault and child abuse cases and works closely with law enforcement and victim services to ensure the swift and efficient prosecution of these most heinous crimes.