

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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Solicitor
W. Walter Wilkins

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

June 6, 2013

Greenville Man Sentenced on Homicide By Child Abuse

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that JAMES ALLEN JOHNSON, age 28, was convicted on June 5, 2013 by a Greenville County jury of Homicide By Child Abuse, and sentenced to 62 years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections by the Honorable Welmaker. JAMES ALLEN JOHNSON will have to serve at least 85 % of the 62 year sentence before he becomes eligible for parole

Evidence presented at the trial by Assistant Solicitor Kris Hodge established that on May 25, 2011, JAMES ALLEN JOHNSON physically abuse the victim, a 20 month old female. The evidence showed victim had been in the care and custody of the defendant, who was the victim's mother's boyfriend; and that in the days prior to her death, the victim had bruising about her head, face and body, after being in his care alone. On May 25, the defendant hit and suffocated the child; however EMS personnel were able to revive the child. She was then declared brain dead on May 27th, and died. On June 2nd, defendant admitted to Sgt. Chris Miller of the Greenville County Sheriff's office that he had hit the child in the head with a toy, then covered her nose and mouth because she was crying; thus suffocating her to death.