

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

May18, 2011

Easley Man Sentenced on First Degree Burglary and Peeping Tom

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins' office stated today that DEWAYNE CHRISTOPHER HAGINS, age 25, of Easley, pled "guilty but mentally ill" in the Pickens County Courthouse on May 17, 2011 to the charges of FIRST DEGREE BURGLARY and PEEPING TOM. The Honorable Judge Letitia Verdin sentenced DEWAYNE CHRISTOPHER HAGINS to 20 years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections. DEWAYNE CHRISTOPHER HAGINS will have to serve at least 85% of his sentence before becoming eligible for parole. HAGINS may have to serve additional time if his mental illness persists.

Evidence presented at the plea established that on the night of November 28, 2009, DEWAYNE CHRISTOPHER HAGINS entered the home of a 23 year old woman, and watched the victim and a friend change clothes through an open vent in the victim's bedroom door. The victim opened the door and found HAGINS crouched in her hallway. HAGINS fled the scene but was ultimately apprehended by the Pickens County Sheriff's Office. The plea of "guilty but mentally ill" carries the same sentence as a guilty plea, but requires the state to treat the defendant for mental health disorders while incarcerated. Prior to this incident, HAGINS had five separate convictions for Indecent Exposure and is on the sex offender registry. HAGINS attorney conceded that HAGINS had been diagnosed with "Exhibitionism" and "Voyeurism".

Assistant Solicitor Baker Cleveland prosecuted the case.