

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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Solicitor
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PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

May17, 2011

Greenville Men Sentenced on Four Counts of Armed Robbery

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins' office stated today that MICHAEL ELLIS EVANS, age 22, and RAKEEM RASHAD JOHNSON, age 20, pled guilty to four counts of ARMED ROBBERY. The Honorable Judge C. Victor Pyle sentenced both men to 185 months each to the South Carolina Department of Corrections. MICHAEL EVANS and RAKEEM JOHNSON will have to serve at least 85% of the sentence before they become eligible for parole.

Evidence presented at the plea established that EVANS and JOHNSON robbed four Greenville County convenience stores between January 20, 2010 and February 23, 2010: The Spinx on White Horse Road, the Spinx on Allen Street, the Li'L Cricket on White Horse Road, and the Corner Mart on Easley Bridge Road. During each robbery, the two men entered the store wearing masks, pointed a .45 caliber pistol at the clerk and demanded money from the register.

On February 23, 2010, a Greenville County Deputy arrived at the Corner Mart as EVANS and JOHNSON were running from the store after robbing it. The deputy followed the men and saw them get into a parked car. Before the men could drive away, the deputy ran up to the car and told the men they were under arrest and ordered them to show their hands. Instead of submitting to arrest, MICHAEL EVANS made a threatening movement. In response, the deputy fired three times. Two of the bullets struck MICHAEL EVANS. MICHAEL EVANS suffered paralysis from the chest down as a result of the gunshot wounds.

Assistant Solicitor Mark Moyer prosecuted the case.

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