

State of South Carolina  
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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Greenville County Courthouse  
305 E. North Street, Suite 325  
Greenville, SC 29601-2185

Solicitor  
W. Walter Wilkins

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**

**March 24, 2016**

**Pickens Man Sentenced on Murder**

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that DEBY LEE BURNSIDE, age 57, was convicted on March 24, 2016 by a Pickens County jury of Murder and sentenced to 30 years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections without the possibility of parole by the Honorable Alexander S. Macaulay.

Evidence presented at the trial by Assistant Solicitor Baker Cleveland established that on August 6, 2014, DEBY LEE BURNSIDE shot and killed James Cherry. Cherry, who was unarmed, was killed as he sat on his riding lawnmower in the defendant's driveway following an argument about work Cherry had performed for the defendant, which Cherry had not been paid for. The shooting occurred in the early evening, and multiple eyewitnesses in the neighborhood testified in the trial to watching Burnside shoot and kill Cherry.