

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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Solicitor
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PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

June 10, 2021

Greenville Man Sentenced on Felony Driving Under the Influence with Death and Failure to Stop For Blue Lights with Death

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that KENT ERIC WASHINGTON, age 31, was convicted on June 10, 2021 by a Greenville County jury of Felony Driving Under the Influence Resulting in Death and Failure to Stop for Blue Lights Resulting in Death, and sentenced by the Honorable Letitia H. Verdin to 22 years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections.

Evidence presented at the trial by Assistant Solicitor Brian J. Moroney established that on July 8, 2019, KENT ERIC WASHINGTON fled from the South Carolina Highway Patrol as a trooper attempted to initiate a traffic stop on US-25/White Horse Road near Bruce Road by activating blue lights and siren. Washington continued onto Interstate 85 North and accelerated rapidly in an attempt to flee. A vehicle pursuit took place on Interstate 85 North as Washington committed numerous traffic infractions. Testimony at trial revealed that speeds during the pursuit reached at least 114 miles per hour. Washington proceeded toward the exit ramp for Exit 46-A for Augusta Road, and lost control of his vehicle, crashing into a concrete barrier. As a result of the crash, Michael Mansell, a front seat passenger in Washington's vehicle was killed. Evidence at trial established that Washington was under the influence of marijuana and impaired to the extent that it affected his ability to safely operate his motor vehicle. The investigation into the Felony Driving Under the Influence Resulting in Death charge was completed by the Greenville County Sheriff's Office.

