

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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Greenville County Courthouse
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Greenville, SC 29601-2185

Solicitor
W. Walter Wilkins

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

December 13, 2022

**Greenville Man Sentenced on Murder, Armed Robbery, and Possession of a
Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime**

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that SOSA MANDIEZ CROFT, age 22, was convicted December 8, 2022 by a Greenville County jury of Murder, Armed Robbery, and Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime and sentenced to the maximum sentence of life in prison in the South Carolina Department of Corrections by the Honorable Perry H. Gravely.

Evidence presented at the trial by Assistant Solicitors Alexa A. Holloway and Britni M. McCall established that on January 29, 2019, SOSA MANDIEZ CROFT shot the victim, 16 year old Mauldin High School sophomore Joshua Meeks, then robbed him of his car and money. Joshua's vehicle was recovered on January 30, 2019 at the Rocky Creek Apartments, where Sosa Croft resided, and the vehicle was covered in blood with indications that a cleanup had been attempted. Homicide Investigators and Forensics technicians located cleaning products and Walmart receipts in the vehicle. Investigators developed Sosa Croft as a suspect after observing him on Walmart surveillance covered in blood and purchasing the same cleaning products later found in the vehicle. Two individuals came forward with information about the crime, leading Investigators to charge Sosa Croft and locate Joshua's body in Laurens County. Testimony revealed that Sosa Croft stated he shot the victim because he thought he had money, but only got \$10 and a pack of skittles. The investigation was led by Lt. Chad Maltby of the Greenville County Sheriff's Office.