

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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Greenville County Courthouse
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Solicitor
W. Walter Wilkins

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

February 15, 2013

**Greenville Man Sentenced on Charges of Burglary 1st Degree,
Armed Robbery, Kidnapping and Conspiracy**

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that CHRISTOPHER ERIC RUSSELL, age 41, was convicted on February 13, 2013, by a Greenville County jury for the charges of Burglary 1st Degree, Armed Robbery, Kidnapping, and Conspiracy, and was sentenced to life imprisonment in the South Carolina Department of Corrections by the Honorable R. Lawton McIntosh. CHRISTOPHER ERIC RUSSELL will not be eligible for parole.

Evidence presented at the trial by Assistant Solicitor Mark Moyer established that on December 18, 2010, CHRISTOPHER ERIC RUSSELL and Antonias Williams broke into a residence on Caroline Drive in Greenville while armed with pistols while a 56 year old man named Jeffrey Lyles was inside the home. Russell and Williams knocked Mr. Lyles to the floor, tied him up, took him to a back bedroom, and held him for over 30 minutes while threatening him and demanding money. Mr. Lyles' wife, Elaine Lyles, and another family member returned to the residence while Russell and Williams were still inside the residence holding Mr. Lyles. Russell and Williams apprehended Mrs. Lyles and made her get to the floor as well. A family member was able to run out of the house unseen by the suspects where she found a neighbor and called the police. The police arrived and arrested Antonias Williams as he ran out of the house. Christopher Russell was arrested on January 10, 2011.