

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**

**August 16, 2013**

**Greenville Man Sentenced on Armed Robbery and Assault Charges**

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that RONALD TYRONE DOWNS JR, age 20, was convicted on August 15, 2013 by a Greenville County jury of Armed Robbery and Assault and Battery 1<sup>st</sup> degree and sentenced to 25 years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections by the Honorable Eugene C. Griffith, Jr. RONALD TYRONE DOWNS JR will have to serve at least 85% of the 25 year sentence before he becomes eligible for parole.

Evidence presented at the trial by Assistant Solicitor Mark Moyer established that shortly before 8:00 pm on October 11, 2012, RONALD TYRONE DOWNS JR entered the Family Dollar store on Butler Road in Mauldin with his face masked and brandishing what appeared to be a pistol. He robbed the store of approximately \$345.00. During the course of the robbery, he struck and assaulted the cashier repeatedly. Several customers who were in the store during the robbery called 911. Mauldin City Police Officer Sean Calhoun arrived on the scene while the robbery was still in progress and saw Ronald Downs fleeing from the store. Officer Calhoun chased Ronald Downs through a field and into a residential area before apprehending him.