

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

September 8, 2017

Greenville Man Sentenced on Felony DUI Resulting In Death

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that FRANCISCO BRAVO GUTIERREZ, age 54, was convicted on September 7, 2017 by a Greenville County jury of Felony DUI resulting in Death and Leaving the Scene of an Accident Resulting in Death. GUTIERREZ was sentenced to eight years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections by the Honorable Robin B. Stilwell. FRANCISCO BRAVO GUTIERREZ will have to serve at least 85 % of the 8 year sentence before he becomes eligible for parole.

Evidence presented at the trial by Assistant Solicitors Elizabeth Gary and Sara Lee Drawdy established that shortly before midnight on September 6, 2015, SILVESTRE GARCIA was riding in the bed of a pickup truck driven by FRANCISCO BRAVO GUTIERREZ on a private roadway located at 11 Security Drive when a witness observed the defendant accelerate the vehicle as the victim was attempting to get out of the rear of the truck bed. Mr. Garcia impacted the pavement with his head and was pronounced dead when EMS arrived. The defendant fled the scene on foot, leaving his truck behind. SC Highway Patrol Troopers and GCSO Sheriff's deputies began searching for the defendant. GUTIERREZ was eventually arrested by South Carolina Highway Patrol Troopers when he returned to his residence at 4 o'clock am. A blood sample was taken from the defendant at the hospital at 4:30 am and the SLED Laboratory test results showed a BAC of 0.061%. A forensic toxicologist from SLED testified that using retrograde extrapolation principles the defendant's BAC could be estimated to have been between 0.10% and 0.13% at the time of the accident. The defendant never contacted authorities to report the accident or request help for the victim.

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