

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

September 10, 2014

Greenville Man Sentenced on Trafficking In Two Kilograms of Heroin

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that EMMANUEL MARQUEZ RODRIGUEZ, age 33, was convicted on September 10, 2014 by a Greenville County jury of Trafficking in Heroin, and sentenced to forty years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections by the Honorable Benjamin Culbertson. EMMANUEL MARQUEZ RODRIGUEZ will have to serve at least 85 % of the 40 year sentence before he becomes eligible for parole.

Evidence presented at the trial by Assistant Solicitor Ryan Holloway established that on April 17, 2013, EMMANUEL MARQUEZ RODRIGUEZ was a passenger on a bus with a private bus company based out of Miami, Florida. The Defendant boarded the bus in Atlanta, Georgia and his suitcase, which contained more than 2,000 grams (2 kilograms) of heroin, was stowed in the bus' cargo bay. While on a regularly-scheduled stop at a restaurant on White Horse Road, the bus driver consented to South Carolina Highway Patrol running a K-9 around the exterior of the bus and the K-9 alerted to luggage in the bus' cargo bay. The Defendant later identified his suitcase for the troopers and consented to the search of that suitcase. Inside the suitcase was concealed the more than two kilograms of heroin wrapped in plastic and smeared in axle grease.