

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

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Pickens Man Sentenced to Fifteen Years on Assault and Battery of a High and Aggravated Nature and Criminal Domestic Violence of a High and Aggravated Nature

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that on January 31st, 2013, in the Pickens County Court of General Sessions, Brandon Kevin Garren, age 50, pleaded guilty to one count of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature and one count of criminal domestic violence of a high and aggravated nature. Garren plead guilty before the Honorable Letitia H. Verdin and was sentenced to fifteen years of incarceration at the South Carolina Department of Corrections. Garren will have to serve at least eighty-five percent of his sentence before he is eligible for release.

Evidence presented at the plea hearing by Assistant Solicitor Sam Tooker established that on January 29, 2012, Garren repeatedly struck the victim, his wife, threatened her life, and pointed a gun at her during an altercation at the couple's Pickens County, SC residence. When the Pickens County Sheriff's Office arrived on scene, deputies found Garren screaming at the victim, threatening to beat her further. Deputies also found the gun on Garren that he had used to threaten her life and documented the visible physical injuries from which the victim was suffering. The victim was transported to the hospital where she was diagnosed with several facial fractures and multiple contusions.

Further, Garren admitted that over the span of some twenty-four hours between June 28th and June 29th, 2012, he repeatedly beat his wife about the head and body with an assortment of items found in the couple's residence. The case was investigated by the Pickens County Sheriffs Office.