

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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Solicitor
W. Walter Wilkins

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

January 7, 2015

Greenville Man Sentenced on Burglary, Kidnapping and Armed Robbery Charges

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that ROBERT LEE MCCORD, age 23, pleaded guilty on January 6, 2015 to charges of Burglary 1st Degree, Kidnapping, Armed Robbery and Petit Larceny, and was sentenced to 25 years of incarceration in the South Carolina Department of Corrections by the Honorable Edward Miller.

Evidence presented at the plea hearing by Deputy Solicitor Andrew Culbreath established that at about midnight on August 22, 2013, the Defendant, ROBERT LEE MCCORD, did force his way at gunpoint into the home of Clarence and Anne Roberts in Fountain Inn. The defendant was wearing a mask and rang the doorbell to get the victim to open the door. Mr. Roberts had just returned from the hospital where he had spent most of the evening with his wife who suffered a stroke earlier that day. Thinking someone from the hospital was trying to reach him about his wife's condition, the victim opened the door and was confronted by the defendant who pointed a large .44 caliber revolver at the victim and ordered him inside the home.

Despite the defendant's mask, the victim recognized the defendant's voice and build as a young man he and his wife had offered assistance to over the past several months. Although Mr. Roberts immediately recognizing the defendant, he did not confront McCord about his identity for fear of being harmed. The defendant tied up the victim's hands and pulled him through the various rooms of the home demanding all of the victim's prescription pills, cash, cigarettes, and a small pistol the victim kept

on his nightstand. The defendant then untied the victim and told him not to call the police for an hour and a half.

Members of the Fountain Inn Police Department responded to the scene and began a manhunt for the defendant. The police located the defendant two days later in Fountain Inn based on a tip they received from a member of the Southern Greenville County Citizen's Group, a local community watch organization. The case was investigated by Detective Scott Hawkins and Lt. Bobby Nelson of the Fountain Inn Police Department.