

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**

**May 17, 2016**

**Greenville Man Sentenced on Attempted Murder and Weapon Charge**

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that JAMES TL GANTT, age 40, pled guilty on May 16, 2016, to Attempted Murder and Possession of a Weapon during the Commission of a Violent Crime and was sentenced to 15 years and 5 years respectively in the South Carolina Department of Corrections by the Honorable Thomas Hughston. JAMES TL GANTT will have to serve at least 85 % of the 15 year sentence before he becomes eligible for parole. The sentences are to be served concurrently.

Evidence presented at the plea hearing by Assistant Solicitor Bryna Seay established that on September 25, 2011, at the Quality Inn located at 1314 South Pleasantburg Drive in Greenville, JAMES TL GANTT shot Anthony Tolbert twice, rendering him paralyzed. An investigation by the Greenville County Sheriff's Office revealed that the defendant and two other men had entered the victim's motel room and become involved in an altercation, with the defendant and one of the men presenting handguns. When the victim demanded that the defendant leave his room, the two men then exchanged words in the courtyard area of the motel. The victim turned to walk away and the defendant shot him. The defendant fled the scene; however, identification by the victim and several eyewitnesses led to his apprehension.