

State of South Carolina  
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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Greenville, SC 29601-2185

Solicitor  
W. Walter Wilkins

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**

**October 19, 2017**

**Liberty Man Convicted and Sentenced in 2015 Shooting**

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that JOHN W. MCCARTY, age 49, was convicted on October 18, 2017 of Murder and Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime. He was sentenced to thirty years in the SC Department of Corrections. He will have to serve that sentence day-for-day, and will be given credit for time served prior to trial.

Assistant Solicitor's Baker Cleveland and Britni McCall presented evidence that on the evening of July 15, 2015, the defendant shot and killed 23-year-old Mitchell Bradley while Bradley was a guest at McCarty's home in Liberty. Bradley, his brother Jacob Kirk, and the defendant's partner, Randy Wilson, had been arguing among themselves prior to the shooting. The argument continued to escalate, and Wilson called out for the defendant. The defendant, who was in his room at the time, armed himself with a 9 mm handgun, went to the area of the altercation, fired one warning shot into the floor, and then shot Bradley twice in the torso through a glass window in the back door of the residence. No one else at the residence was armed with a weapon or suffered any significant injuries. Bradley died at the scene. The defense contended that McCarty shot to defend his partner; however the jury concluded that the shooting was not justified and McCarty was convicted on both counts.