

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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W. Walter Wilkins

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

February 27, 2012

**Pickens Man Sentenced on Criminal Sexual Conduct With Minor - Victim Under 11 Yrs
Of Age - First Degree and Lewd Act on a Minor**

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that WILLIAM DAVID WOOTEN, age 42, pled guilty on February 27, 2012 in Pickens County to Criminal Sexual Conduct With Minor - Victim Under 11 Yrs Of Age - First Degree, and Lewd Act on a Minor and was sentenced to 25 years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections by the Honorable Brooks Goldsmith. WILLIAM DAVID WOOTEN will have to serve at least 85 % of the 25 year sentence before he becomes eligible for parole.

Evidence presented at the plea hearing by Assistant Solicitor Brandi Batson established that on November 28, 2010, WILLIAM DAVID WOOTEN attempted to place his hand on the vaginal area of a 13 year old female at the defendant's Pickens County residence. The victim of the lewd act immediately disclosed the assault to her parents. Through this disclosure, it was discovered that the defendant had, from May 2007 through November 2010, also sexually assaulted a female on numerous occasions beginning at age 8 and continuing until age 11 at his Pickens County residence. The case was investigated by both Detective Brandon Liner of Easley Police Department and Lieutenant J.B. Kelley of the Pickens County Sherriff's Office.