

# *News Release*

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## **Berkeley County Jury Convicts Jermaine T. McKelvey**

**Moncks Corner, S.C.** – On April 14, 2010, a Berkeley County jury found Jermaine McKelvey (DOB 04/10/1981) guilty of Armed Robbery, Assault and Battery with Intent to Kill, Possession of a Weapon during a Violent Crime and Possession of Cocaine Base (Crack).

Circuit Court Judge Markley Dennis, Jr., imposed concurrent sentences of twenty-seven (27) years on the Armed Robbery, twenty (20) years on the Assault and Battery with Intent to Kill and one (1) year on the Possession of Cocaine Base. In addition, the defendant received a consecutive sentence of five (5) years on the Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Violent Crime charge.

The shooting and robbery occurred outside of the Pleasure Lounge in Moncks Corner on Thanksgiving morning 2008. Jermaine McKelvey and the victim were inside of the Pleasure Lounge when the defendant began to push and assault the victim in the presence of other patrons. As the assault escalated, McKelvey pulled out a pistol, robbed the victim of his money, and shot him once in the head. As the victim lay on the ground in a pool of blood, the defendant attempted to flee the scene in a vehicle.

A Berkeley County Sheriff's Deputy heard the shot and notified the Moncks Corner Police Department (MCPD). Officers responded within seconds apprehending the defendant as he tried to leave in the vehicle. A blood spattered pistol was located underneath the defendant's seat and gunshot residue was recovered from the defendant's hands.

The victim was flown to the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) for his injuries and was admitted into the Trauma Intensive Care Unit for a skull fracture.

Senior Assistant Solicitor Dorie Biagianti and Assistant Solicitor Anne Williams prosecuted the two day trial.

"I am convinced that the jury reached the correct verdict. There was overwhelming evidence of the defendant's guilt. It was nice to see that justice was served for both the State and the defendant," said Assistant Solicitor Dorie Biagianti.

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