

News Release

For Immediate Release
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Man convicted for Folly Beach assault

Charleston, S.C. – April 13, 2015

A thirty-two year old man was convicted of assault and battery 2nd degree by a Charleston County jury on Friday, April 10, 2015, for an incident that occurred in 2012 on Folly Beach when he struck a victim in the head twice with the blunt end of a pool stick.

At the conclusion of the trial, Judge J.C. Nicholson Jr. sentenced Michael Metzler to three years suspended upon the service of one year in prison and probation for five years. In addition, Metzler will be required to pay restitution in the amount of \$2,102 and complete anger management upon his release.

Witnesses testified during the trial that the victim and his friend went to Folly Beach on December 8, 2012 to watch the Christmas Day Parade. Following the parade, the two went to a local bar. At the bar, Metzler became angry because the victim's friend had been talking to Metzler's girlfriend. An argument ensued and all parties were asked to leave the bar. The two groups ran into each other again at another local bar which resulted in both groups being asked to leave that establishment as well.

Later that night, Metzler and his girlfriend observed the victim and his friend walking home. Metzler retrieved a pool stick from his vehicle, approached the victim and struck the victim in the head with the pool stick. The victim fell to the ground unconscious and Metzler struck him in the head again with the pool stick. Members of the Jefferson Coker Band witnessed the assault and band leader, Jefferson Coker, ran up to Metzler yelling for him to stop. Witnesses testified that had it not been for the quick actions of Coker, Metzler would likely have struck the victim again.

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