

State of South Carolina

Charleston County
101 Meeting Street, Suite 400
Charleston, SC 29401
Phone (843) 958-1900
Fax (843) 958-1905



Berkeley County
300-B California Avenue
Moncks Corner, SC 29461
Phone (843) 723-3800 ext. 4529
Fax (843) 719-4588

SCARLETT A. WILSON

Solicitor, Ninth Judicial Circuit

For Immediate Release
March 5, 2026

Contact: Ashley Kay
KayA@scsolicitor9.org

Neil Ferrell Sentenced to Life in Prison For 2023 Murder

Charleston, S.C.-- Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson announced today that a Charleston jury found Neil Ferrell guilty of Murder, and Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime after a three-day trial. The Honorable Diane Goodstein presided over the trial and sentenced Ferrell to Life in the South Carolina Department of Corrections. Solicitor Wilson stated, "Judge Goodstein saw the senselessness of this murder and responded accordingly. Ferrell will no longer be a danger to our community."

Assistant Solicitor Kelsey Davis prosecuted the case against Ferrell, with the assistance of Assistant Solicitor Andrew McAllister and Special Investigator Kristene Rivera. During the trial evidence was presented, including surveillance, showing Ferrell shot Malcolm Jones Jr. in the chest while Jones was in the Stanley Steemer parking lot the night of July 2, 2023. Jones died as a result of the injuries from the single gunshot wound. Charleston Consolidated Dispatch only received one call for service for Jones, despite several eyewitnesses. First responders initially treated the scene as a medical emergency until they opened Jones' shirt to find a gunshot wound. North Charleston Police Department Corporal Besancon canvassed the scene for witnesses but none were forthcoming.

Detectives Jenni Butler and David Pritchard discovered surveillance footage showing the shooting. Defendant is seen walking around the corner from Indira Grocery to the Stanley Steamers parking lot with his gun drawn and while being followed by an audience. That surveillance showed Defendant shot Jones at close range as Jones was biking away. Less than thirty seconds elapsed the moment Jones first comes into Defendant's view to the moment Defendant took Jones' life.

The investigation revealed Defendant walked around the building to confront Jones after he was alerted to a commotion in the grocery store. Defendant testified at trial to being intoxicated after mixing prescription opioids and alcohol and fearing for his life. Assistant Solicitor Davis confronted Defendant with the inconsistencies in his crafted narrative and the jury rejected Defendant's self-defense argument. The Defendant committed this murder in front of children, including his own.

###