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**SCARLETT A. WILSON**  
*Solicitor, Ninth Judicial Circuit*

## **PRISON SENTENCE FOR DISTRACTED DRIVER WHO CAUSED DEADLY CRASH WHILE USING SOCIAL MEDIA**

For Immediate Release  
March 31, 2026

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*Charleston, S.C.*— Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson announced that the Honorable Judge Roger Young, Sr., sentenced Melvin Otto Lamb, III, to three years of active prison time followed by five years of probation after his March 30, 2026, guilty plea to Reckless Homicide. Lamb pled guilty just prior to jury selection for the trial set to begin the same day.

Lamb's conviction stems from a motor vehicle crash that occurred on June 12, 2021, in Mount Pleasant. Lamb was driving a 2008 Chevy Tahoe northbound on Highway 17 near Hamlin Road when he crashed into the victim's 2019 Chevrolet Trax. The victim had been stopped and waiting for the light change at that intersection. The collision set off a chain reaction involving a total of nine vehicles.

The crash data recorder from Lamb's car showed that he was traveling at 68 mph continuously for the five seconds before impacting the victim's vehicle--without turning or applying the brakes at any point. The posted speed limit was 45mph. Lamb's admissions and a subsequent search of his phone showed that he had been swiping through Tinder, Snapchat, and using Spotify leading up to the crash. Lamb admitted not knowing what happened in the crash because he had been looking at his telephone. After the collision, Lamb and the victim were transported to MUSC where the victim later died. Lamb was released from the hospital with minor injuries.

The Mount Pleasant Police Traffic Division investigated the crash with assistance from the Charleston County Sheriff's Office.

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