## News Release

For Immediate Release February 7, 2017

## JAMES ISLAND DRUG DEALER SENTENCED TO 25 YEARS

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## Charleston, S.C.

Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson announced that yesterday, just prior to jury selection, Timothy Montez Wright (DOB 09/26/1985) pled guilty to several drug and firearm charges, to wit: two counts of Trafficking Cocaine, two counts of Distribution of Cocaine, and three counts of Possession of a Stolen Firearm. Due to prior convictions for drugs and violent crimes, the defendant was facing a sentence of life without parole if convicted at trial. Judge Dennis accepted the plea agreement in this case and sentenced Wright to 25 years on the drug charges and the maximum of 5 years on the firearm charges. Wright's prior criminal history consists of Voluntary Manslaughter, two convictions for Possession with Intent to Distribute Crack Cocaine, Distribution of Crack Cocaine, Distribution of Crack Cocaine Within Close Proximity of School/Park, and False Information to Police. Assistant Solicitors Lauren M. Frierson and Stephanie B. Linder prosecuted the case.

The case called for trial was for Distribution of Cocaine. On February 11, 2015, a Confidential Informant, working under the direction and control of the Charleston Police Department Narcotics Unit, purchased a quantity of cocaine from the defendant. The vehicle used to transport the defendant to the buy was registered to a known female acquaintance at the address where the defendant was ultimately located and arrested in May 2015. This transaction was audio and video recorded and was one of five drug transactions that Wright completed between February and March 2015.