News Release

For Immediate Release December 5, 2011

Contact: Naomi Nation (843) 958-1945 Naomi@scsolicitor9.org

Berkeley County man found guilty of Criminal Sexual Conduct 1st degree

Moncks Corner, S.C. – A Berkeley County jury found a Goose Creek man guilty of Criminal Sexual Conduct in the 1st degree on Friday after five days of trial. Circuit Court Judge Kristi Lea Harrington presided over the trial and sentenced Michael Christopher Andes to twenty years, suspended to twelve years in prison and five years probation.

On November 6, 2010, the victim, a roommate of the defendant, was in her room at about 3:30 a.m when the defendant began texting her and demanding that she have sex with him. When the victim refused, the defendant entered her room naked and forced himself on her. The victim was held down and sexually assaulted. Upon exiting the room, the defendant urinated in the room which the victim shared with her young daughter. The state presented forensic evidence along with phone records which corroborated the victim's testimony at trial. Assistant Solicitor Anne Williams said "The victim showed enormous courage and perseverance, especially during over six hours of cross-examination at trial. We are pleased with the Defendant got the verdict he deserved and thankful that the victim and her family can move past this tragedy."

Grover Seaton IV represented Mr. Andes at trial. The defendant was previously convicted of two (2) counts of Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor, multiple counts of Breaking into Motor Vehicles, and Grand Larceny. The case was prosecuted by Assistant Solicitors Anne Williams and Ben Shelton.