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North Charleston Man Sentenced to 15 Years for Shooting his Elderly Aunt

Charleston, S.C. – Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson announced that a jury has found 42-year-old Kenneth Miller Jr. guilty on three charges related to the violent assault of his then 84-year-old aunt, Ms. Juanita Dukes. The verdict, delivered this week in Charleston County General Sessions Court, included convictions for Assault and Battery of a High and Aggravated Nature (ABHAN), Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime, and Possession of a Weapon by a Person Prohibited.

The Honorable Jennifer McCoy sentenced Miller to 15 years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections following a multi-day trial and the jury's verdict.

On January 4, 2024, Miller shot Ms. Dukes inside her home. The bullet remarkably lodged itself in the plastic component of her prosthetic knee—an extraordinary circumstance that likely saved her life. The Defendant claimed his identity was mistaken. North Charleston Police Department investigated the case while Assistant Solicitors Kasey Knox and Liane Kozik of the Ninth Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office handled the prosecution.

“Ms. Dukes showed remarkable strength throughout this process, and we are grateful the jury held the defendant accountable,” said Assistant Solicitor Knox.

The prosecution presented evidence including testimony from the victim, forensic analysis linking Miller to the crime, and surveillance footage showing Miller's vehicle leaving the victim's neighborhood immediately after the incident.

Solicitor Wilson stated, “We thank the jury for their service and the investigators for their hard work in bringing these convictions to Ms. Dukes and her family.”

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