

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
COUNTY OF RICHLAND )

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS  
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, )  
v. )  
CARROLL LEE PHILLIPS )  
DEFENDANT. )

Warrant No(s): 2012A4010600436-440

**RECEIVED**  
**ORDER**  
**May 04 2026**

**SC Court of Appeals**

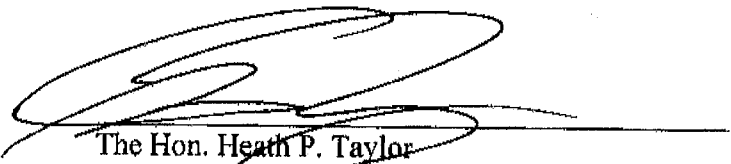
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COURT SECURITY

THIS MATTER CAME BEFORE THE COURT on February 4, 2026, pursuant to the Defense's Motion to Reconsider Sentence. The Defendant was represented by Tommy Thomas Esquire, and the State was represented by John Yurco, Esquire, of the Fifth Circuit Solicitor's Office. The Defendant was arrested and charged with armed robbery and kidnapping on December 19, 2012. The Defendant pled guilty in front of the Honorable Judge Benjamin in 2013 where he received a twenty (20) year concurrent sentence and was given credit for two-hundred and sixty (260) days of time served credit. Defense's Motion was timely filed in 2013 but was not heard until this term. The Defendant believes he is entitled to a reduction in sentence because his co-defendant, who he believes to be more culpable, received the same sentence. After hearing arguments of counsel, the Defendant's Motion is denied. *See Brooks v. State*, 325 S.C. 269, 271, 481 S.E.2d 712, 713 (1997) (holding that a trial judge is allowed broad discretion in sentencing within the statutory limits).

- - **THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED** that the Defendant's motion is denied.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

[signature page to follow]



The Hon. Heath P. Taylor  
Circuit Court Judge  
First Judicial Circuit

This 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026  
Columbia, South Carolina