

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF JASPER

Filed

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
FOR THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

2026 MAY 17 PM 2:34

INDICTMENT NO. 2024GS2700505,
2024GS2700506, and 2024GS2700507

State of South Carolina,

VS.

Charles Saunders,
Defendant.

ORDER

RECEIVED

May 18 2026

SC Court of Appeals

This matter came before the Court on February 17, 2026 for trial in Jasper County. Traci Campbell appeared on behalf of the State and Jennifer Bouley appeared on behalf of the Defendant. Defendant was charged with two (2) counts of Murder and one (1) count of Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime under indictments 2024-GS-27-00505, 2024-GS-27-00506, and 2024-GS-27-00507. On February 19, 2026, the jury returned a guilty verdict on each charge. The Defendant received two (2) life sentences and five (5) years all to run concurrent.

On March 20, 2026, the Court heard the Defendant's post-trial Motion for a New Trial. A new trial may be granted when necessary to prevent a miscarriage of justice. The Defense argued that the Court erred in permitting the State to introduce prejudicial evidence, and there was crucial evidence that was mishandled. This Court does not find any errors of law during the trial of this case. Further, under the Thirteenth Juror Doctrine, the verdict was not against the weight of the evidence. Upholding all ruling ^{during} ~~from~~ the trial of this case, the Defendant's motion is

DENIED.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Carmen T. Mullen
Presiding Judge

May 4, 2026
Jasper, SC