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SC Court of Appeals

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

Appeal from the Cherokee County
Court of General Sessions

Appellate Case No. 2025-000603

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.....RESPONDENT,

v.

JOHN BENDARIAN BONNER APPELLANT.

RECORD ON APPEAL

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1 religion. He tells me he attends church frequently,
2 Wednesday and Sunday, and takes his devotion to God
3 seriously. He also told me that he has given testimonials
4 to prisoners and hopes that his fellow prisoners there that
5 gather there can learn lessons from what John has done.

6 Besides I believe he has ability to change, I
7 would tell the court that Mr. Bonner's several
8 co-defendants, several of these defendants were sentenced to
9 quite long sentences, but some of them, not all of them, but
10 some of them will have the opportunity to one day be allowed
11 to have some kind of meaningful chance of rehabilitation.

12 Your Honor, this is a young man with goals and
13 visions. He has expressed to me several times that he wants
14 to get a business degree from college. He wants to open a
15 record label. He wants to get married. He wants to have a
16 family. He wants to lead a normal life. He's looking for a
17 chance, Your Honor, to lead that normal life and for a
18 meaningful chance at rehabilitation.

19 At this current time Mr. Bonner, because he was
20 sentenced at so young an age, he will no doubt serve more
21 years and a greater percentage of his life than someone that
22 was say sentenced as an adult offender, whether it be thirty
23 years old or seventy years old.

24 We realize that, of course, in the Graham case,
25 and as well as our Supreme Court that says the State is not

1 required to guarantee eventual freedom to someone like Mr.
2 Bonner, the sentence we are asking for is a sentence that
3 provides some meaningful opportunity for release, based upon
4 demonstrated maturity and rehabilitation. I think in the
5 time that he's been in prison, he's demonstrated maturity
6 and the opportunity for rehabilitation. I believe he does
7 have a little maturity now that he did not when he was
8 seventeen, and his time in prison has allowed him to begin a
9 long process of rehabilitation.

10 The case law that I have read, most importantly in
11 the Graham case, a life without parole sentence I believe
12 should be reserved for those defendants, in the words of the
13 court there, are irredeemably depraved. Josh is not
14 irredeemably deprived. In fact, I would argue today that he
15 does have this capacity to change, and what we are asking
16 for the court today is to give him the opportunity to
17 demonstrate his capacity for change.

18 What we are asking for is hope, hope at a new life
19 and a chance for John to prove himself on the outside and
20 for a chance to live a meaningful and respectful life.

21 Thank you.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Schultz, I know that you have read
23 the opinion.

24 MR. SCHULTZ: Yes, sir.

25 THE COURT: The court said a life sentence could

1 not be imposed, even though it's authorized by statute.
2 Does the court give any guidance as to what kind of sentence
3 could be imposed in this case?

4 MR. SCHULTZ: The court did not give any
5 categorical rule, any kind of bright line guidance to assist
6 the trial courts in this. It's -- I guess it would be more
7 of a qualitative judgment rather than quantitative opinion.

8 The only research that I have been able to find
9 with this is the transcript in the Supreme Court oral
10 arguments, and it doesn't provide -- it may not provide
11 guidance, but I wanted to bring that up to the court's
12 attention.

13 Justice Scalia asked appellate counsel for Mr.
14 Graham in the Graham v. Florida case. And he asked him
15 about what exactly a sentence like this would propose. And
16 if I could read from the transcript here, Your Honor.

17 "Justice Scalia: What do you propose? I propose,
18 you know, one year before his life expectancy."

19 And then counsel for Mr. Graham here, a person
20 named Bryan Gowdy, has said "Your -- Your Honor, I think
21 that would be coming so close to the -- the constitutional
22 line, it would be -- it would be difficult to see that as
23 constitutional, but --"

24 And then Justice Scalia interrupts him and says
25 "oh, one year before life is also unconstitutional?"

1 And then Mr. Gowdy says "Your Honor, I'm --"

2 And Justice Scalia says "two years before life?"

3 And then Mr. Gowdy goes on at length and says

4 "Your Honor, there would definitely be a -- a difficult line
5 to draw at that case. Life without parole, though, is
6 unequivocal. And even that sentence that you are
7 describing, there is some difference between it and life
8 without parole, because only life without parole makes the
9 unequivocal assessment that the adolescent cannot be
10 returned to civil society."

11 And Chief Justice Roberts then goes on to say --
12 he goes on to question counsel about a categorical rule.

13 Of course, counsel has not proposed a categorical
14 rule or any kind of bright line, so unfortunately I was not
15 able to find any research on it. I don't think that that
16 was what the court wanted to do in this matter. I think --
17 as I said before, I think it's a qualitative opinion that
18 the court wrote here and I don't think there is any bright
19 line or categorical rules where the trial courts can
20 sentence a person knowing that they cannot sentence
21 juveniles to life without parole.

22 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Bonner, do you have
23 anything that you would like to add to what Mr. Schultz has
24 told me?

25 MR. SCHULTZ: And, Your Honor, if I could, some

1 family members wish to address the court --

2 THE COURT: Okay.

3 MR. SCHULTZ: -- at the appropriate time.

4 THE COURT: All right.

5 MR. BARNETTE: And, Your Honor, if I could address
6 something he said earlier too about that --

7 THE COURT: Okay.

8 MR. BARNETTE: -- whenever the appropriate time.

9 THE COURT: I'll let you respond to whatever they
10 tell me.

11 Who else do you have that wants to speak?

12 MR. SCHULTZ: Your Honor, I would like to present
13 his mother Eva Bonner.

14 THE COURT: And your name is what, ma'am?

15 EVA BONNER: Eva Bonner.

16 THE COURT: Eva Bonner?

17 EVA BONNER: Yes, sir.

18 THE COURT: All right, Ms. Bonner, what would you
19 like to say?

20 EVA BONNER: I would like for the court to have
21 mercy on my son, because my son is -- I have been hearing is
22 not the son that I know. The son that I know has been the
23 one that has been encouraging me and giving me hope.

24 He has two kids, one of whom he has never spent
25 time with. They will have to grow up without a father or

1 anybody, something he done had to grow up with.

2 He didn't have a brother, a counselor that he
3 never got to see, or even come to see him when he left. I
4 just ask the court to have mercy.

5 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, ma'am.

6 All right, tell me your name, please, sir.

7 CHRIS DEWBERRY: Chris Dewberry.

8 THE COURT: Chris Dewberry?

9 CHRIS DEWBERRY: Chris Dewberry, uh-huh.

10 THE COURT: All right. What would you like to
11 tell me?

12 CHRIS DEWBERRY: Oh, I coached him when I was
13 at --- when we was at Ewing Middle School, and I have been
14 knowing him most of my life. And I just want the court to
15 give mercy on him. He's -- he's not -- he's not a violent
16 person and he's got a lot of values in him. And I just feel
17 that he made a mistake, and I feel that, you know, God will
18 forgive him for that. And I just, you know, come to
19 represent him and support him. I love him. I love him as a
20 kid. I have been knowing him so long, I just love him, and
21 I support him and I believe that he still will be a good
22 citizen of Cherokee County. I think he's learned his
23 lesson. Thank you.

24 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, sir.

25 MR. SCHULTZ: That's all I have, Your Honor.

1 MR. BARNETTE: Thank you, Your Honor.

2 Briefly I would just like to respond, Your Honor.

3 He talked about the other co-defendants, or whatever. Well,
4 this defendant, Mr. Bonner, went in the house, the victim's
5 house, broke into her house with Joshua Manning, Lebron
6 Agnew, as well as Fred Douglas, Your Honor. He was one of
7 the main instigators. The other four did not go in the
8 building. Two of them actually stayed at the car across
9 from the parking lot. Two of them was lookouts outside, so
10 they have different levels of culpability. He was one of
11 the main players in this case from that point. That's the
12 reason I brought up the three examples I used.

13 Jonathan Vick and Eric Morgan, I know the court
14 knows them, because you tried those cases. They were both
15 seventeen years old.

16 Calen Radwill kidnapped a fifteen year old boy
17 from a Winn Dixie at Lexington and took him out and stabbed
18 him seventy-eight times for absolutely no reason whatsoever,
19 other than just looking at him wrong.

20 And some of the most dangerous people I have ever
21 dealt were that age. And just because -- the problem I have
22 got with what the court has done -- not this court, but
23 obviously the Court of Appeals and possibly the Supreme
24 Court, they have made eighteen years old the bright line
25 rule. If you are seventeen years old, three hundred and

1 sixty-four days old, you are going to be treated
2 differently, even though you could do a crime just as
3 violent as anybody else. And this was definitely a violent
4 crime. I know the court knows that. I just wanted to put
5 that on the record that I have a real problem with that,
6 because now you are treating seventeen and sixteen year olds
7 differently than an eighteen year old just because maybe
8 possibly one day -- I don't know how many days old Mr.
9 Bonner was, but just because they picked an age range don't
10 mean that the crimes or the way they have done is any
11 different from anything, because you are differentiating
12 just because of age now. It needs to be looked at the
13 individual and the crime that they did. And obviously the
14 crime that this individual was involved in was very heinous.
15 Thank you, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Bonner, anything that
17 you would like to add to what your lawyer has told me?

18 THE DEFENDANT: Well, I mean, you know, first off
19 I would just like to thank the most high for blessing me and
20 giving me the opportunity to be here, you know, and for
21 guiding me and keeping me strong throughout this, you know.

22 And just adding on to what my family and what my
23 friend was just saying, I mean, I'm ready for society, you
24 know. I did a lot of bad things in life. I made a lot of
25 mistakes, but, you know, we are all just human, you know

1 what I'm saying?

2 I went down there. I had to rehabilitate myself.
3 Prison didn't rehabilitate me. I did it myself. It's
4 something that I wanted to do, you know.

5 I just got a family that needed me. I got kids
6 that need me. A lot of people out there that need me. You
7 know, I -- I think I deserve a second chance. I mean, I
8 cried and begged every night to God to give me this
9 opportunity and he believed in me. He did. All I got to do
10 is obey it. That's all he asked me to do.

11 I'm just ready. I just need a second chance to
12 prove to the people, to my family and everybody. I'm ready
13 for society now. That's it. That's it.

14 THE COURT: On Indictment 2009-0824 on burglary,
15 first degree, the sentence of the court is that you, John
16 Bendarian Bonner, be confined to the South Carolina
17 Department of Corrections for a period of sixty years.

18 Give him credit for any time he's entitled to
19 pursuant to 24-13-40.

20 MR. BARNETTE: Thank you, Your Honor.

21 (END OF REQUESTED TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD)

22

23

24

25

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, Michael R. Watts, Official Court Reporter for the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit of the State of South Carolina, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, accurate and complete Transcript of Record of the proceedings had and the evidence introduced in the trial of the captioned case, relative to appeal, in the Court of General Sessions for CHEROKEE County, South Carolina, on the 22ND day of JANUARY, 2013.

I do further certify that I am neither of kin, counsel nor interest to any party hereto.

MARCH 9, 2013



Michael R. Watts
Circuit Court Reporter

1 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
2 COUNTY OF CHEROKEE) IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS
3
4 The State,)
5 -vs-) TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD
6 John Bendarian Bonner,) 2009-GS-11-00824-829
7 Defendant.) January 17, 2024
8) Gaffney, South Carolina
9
10
11 B E F O R E:
12 HONORABLE J. DERHAM COLE, SR., JUDGE
13
14
15 A P P E A R A N C E S:
16 BARRY JOE BARNETTE, ESQUIRE
17 Attorney for the State
18 LINDSEY STERLING VANN, ESQUIRE
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23 Circuit Court Reporter
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Motion -- page 3.

No sworn testimony.

No exhibits entered into evidence.

1 (Proceedings January 17, 2024)

2 THE COURT: All right. This is in the matter of
3 2009-GS-11-00824 through 00829, State of South Carolina vs.
4 John Bendarian Bonner.

5 This is the defendant's motion for recusal.

6 Ms. Vann, you represent Mr. Bonner?

7 MS. VANN: Yes, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Solicitor Barnette is here on behalf of
9 the state.

10 Ms. Vann.

11 MS. VANN: Good morning, Judge Cole. May it please
12 the Court.

13 As you know, this is a case where a juvenile was
14 sentenced to life without parole, and that was overturned,
15 and then was sentenced to 60 years. And that was also
16 reversed as unconstitutional under Graham vs. Georgia. And
17 that case held that a juvenile cannot be sentenced to life
18 without parole for a non-homicide offense.

19 As a result, this case is before the Court for a third
20 sentencing hearing. Because this court has heard the
21 sentencing arguments and made the sentencing determination
22 twice before, recusal is appropriate to allow a new
23 sentencing judge to conduct a de novo sentencing hearing
24 and to avoid any questions of impartiality.

25 There are really two bases for recusal in this case.

1 The first is the procedure that has been followed in
2 other juvenile resentencing cases.

3 The supreme court has created a de novo sentencing
4 review for juveniles in requiring consideration of juvenile
5 sentencing factors under Aiken vs. Byars.

6 Following Aiken vs. Byars, which ruled that all
7 juveniles sentenced to life without parole for homicide
8 offenses were eligible for resentencing, the Chief Justice
9 of the Supreme Court said that those resentencings would
10 not occur before the original sentencing judge and that
11 assignment of a new judge really gave affect to the de novo
12 review of the sentencing determination.

13 Just last year in the case of State vs. Mark out of
14 the South Carolina Supreme Court the Court emphasized the
15 de novo review in juvenile sentencing hearings saying that
16 in exercising resentencing discretion resentencing judges
17 may give no deference to the prior sentencing judge's
18 determination.

19 In Jones vs. State the supreme court made clear that
20 that or the sentencing procedures for juveniles have to
21 apply, regardless of the type of offense, whether it's a
22 homicide or non-homicide offense, saying that all juveniles
23 are entitled to sentencing consideration under the Aiken
24 vs. Byars factors.

25 As a result, a resentencing proceeding in a juvenile

1 case must be de novo and no deference given to the prior
2 sentencing court. And that means in this case a new
3 sentencing judge would be appropriate.

4 To allow a judge who hasn't previously heard the
5 evidence or the arguments for sentences, who hasn't made
6 the decision twice and who has not expressed a previous
7 opinion on what the appropriate sentence is.

8 That would be similar to what the supreme court did in
9 Aiken vs. Byars cases. And so in accordance with those
10 procedures Mr. Bonner should have a new sentencing judge.

11 In addition, the code of judicial conduct provides
12 basis for recusal in this case. Canon 3(E)(1) requires
13 judges to recuse themselves when there may be -- or it says
14 they shall disqualify themselves in any proceeding in which
15 the judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned.

16 The canon gives specific examples of when impartiality
17 may be questioned, but the commentary makes clear that
18 it -- a judge should disqualify himself, regardless of
19 whether it fits one of the specific examples, whenever
20 there is a question of impartiality.

21 Here, as I've mentioned, this Court has heard the
22 sentencing evidence and has twice engaged in the internal
23 deliberations regarding what an appropriate sentence is in
24 the case.

25 As we cited in our brief or in our motion, studies

1 show that it's hard for any of us, any decision makers, to
2 set aside prior knowledge when making a sentencing
3 determination. And that's called the anchoring effect,
4 that it could get anchored to prior decisions or prior
5 information.

6 And so to avoid that and to ensure de novo
7 resentencing consideration, Mr. Bonner asks that the judge
8 recuse himself and assign a new judge for his sentencing
9 hearing.

10 THE COURT: Well, let me ask this.

11 Isn't any judge going to review the record in the case
12 in order to determine the sentence?

13 MS. VANN: Yes, they would review the record. But in
14 this case it's beyond just what is in the record.

15 I think it goes into what your thought process was for
16 what an appropriate sentence was at both of the prior
17 sentencing determinations. And that kind of deliberative
18 process wouldn't be something that a new sentencing judge
19 would have.

20 THE COURT: Well, let me ask you this.

21 Do you expect that there will be additional
22 information provided at a new sentencing hearing that was
23 not provided at the previous two?

24 MS. VANN: Yes, Your Honor.

25 I intend to present evidence on all of the Aiken vs.

1 Byars factors as Jones vs. State requires for all juveniles
2 being sentenced at this point.

3 That will include new evidence from various witnesses
4 that we are preparing to present to the Court, and so it
5 will provide some new sentencing information.

6 THE COURT: So are you saying because I'm familiar
7 with the case that I could not or would not consider
8 additional information that was not presented to me to be
9 considered before at a new sentencing hearing?

10 MS. VANN: I'm not suggesting that you wouldn't
11 consider the new information, but this is similar to the
12 case of State vs. Atterberry where our supreme court says
13 that a judge who has previously expressed an opinion on
14 whether the defendant is guilty or not is disqualified from
15 hearing a retrial in a case because of --

16 THE COURT: Did I do that?

17 MS. VANN: You expressed an opinion on the
18 appropriateness of the sentence.

19 So I think it is not an identical situation but is a
20 similar situation where your thought process and, you know,
21 deliberations have led you to decide what an appropriate
22 sentence is now twice in this case. And because you've
23 expressed that opinion, I think it disqualifies you from
24 considering this case in the future.

25 THE COURT: All right. Let me ask you about your

1 analogy to the Aiken vs. Byars situation.

2 You're saying that -- are you saying that the courts
3 have said that a sentencing judge cannot hear a subsequent
4 sentencing hearing if he was involved, he or she was
5 involved, in the previous sentencing of the defendant?

6 MS. VANN: Yes.

7 After Aiken vs. Byars was decided the supreme court
8 issued an administrative order, and I have it if you would
9 like a copy of it.

10 And in that it says that the chief justice while
11 assigning a judge for the resentencing shall refrain from
12 assigning the matter to the original sentencing judge. And
13 so all of that --

14 THE COURT: What chief justice was that?

15 MS. VANN: It was Chief Justice Pleicones.

16 THE COURT: All right. Because Chief Justice Beatty
17 has assigned an Aiken case to me in a case that I presided
18 over the trial.

19 MS. VANN: Well, I'm not sure what he said is -- I
20 suggest that that is contrary to --

21 THE COURT: It's State vs. Lance Lyles.

22 MS. VANN: Well, I would suggest that that is contrary
23 to the administrative order that was issued following Aiken
24 vs. Byars.

25 THE COURT: You going to take that up with Justice

1 Beatty?

2 MS. VANN: It's not my case, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: I see.

4 All right. Anything else you want to tell me?

5 MS. VANN: No, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Barnette.

7 MR. BARNETTE: Thank you, Your Honor.

8 I'd like to give you some case law first. Let me give
9 a copy to my cocounsel -- not my cocounsel. Opposing
10 counsel.

11 (Pause.)

12 THE COURT: While you're doing that let me ask Ms.
13 Vann one other question.

14 Ms. Vann, as you have pointed out, I was -- I presided
15 over the trial and imposed a sentence, and that was
16 reversed and sent back for a resentencing hearing, which I
17 presided over.

18 MS. VANN: Yes, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Are you telling me that the law would
20 state that I should not have presided over that hearing?

21 MS. VANN: I know that the attorney representing
22 Mr. Bonner did not raise this at his resentencing hearing.

23 I think that this is something that, you know, we're
24 raising because we do think that this raises a question of
25 impartiality.

1 I also think that the recent cases out of the supreme
2 court -- State vs. Martin and State vs. Jones which we cite
3 in our motion -- both really emphasize, one, that this is a
4 de novo hearing where there should not be need any
5 deference given to the prior sentencing judge's
6 determination.

7 That is a new case. We have argued that all of these
8 cases are de novo, but the supreme court explicitly stated
9 that in 2023.

10 And in the State vs. Jones case the Supreme Court made
11 clear now that the Aiken vs. Byars factors have to be
12 considered any time a juvenile is sentenced.

13 And so it -- I think the law has evolved a little bit
14 in the juvenile sentencing realm since this Court heard the
15 resentencing in this case.

16 THE COURT: And the '23 case was which one?

17 MS. VANN: State vs. Smart which is --

18 THE COURT: That's in your brief?

19 MS. VANN: Yes, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: I mean in your motion. Okay.

21 MS. VANN: And Jones vs. State.

22 THE COURT: Both of those are in your motion?

23 MS. VANN: Yes, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Barnette.

25 MR. BARNETTE: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor.

1 Just one thing I want to clarify. I'm sure Ms. Vann
2 will correct me if I'm wrong.

3 If I remember the P.C.R. order in this case when it
4 was sent back by Judge Addy for sentencing, it was based
5 off that the defense counsel Mr. Schultz at the time did
6 not ask for reconsideration in the case.

7 I think that was the basis for the reason why he
8 reversed it and sent it back for P.C.R. It wasn't based
9 off of Graham factors or anything like that from what I
10 understand.

11 Now, she may correct me if I'm wrong, but that was my
12 understanding of it.

13 THE COURT: Well, I understood the P.C.R. was granted
14 on the issue that Mr. Schultz failed to argue the fact that
15 whatever sentence I imposed was tantamount to a life
16 sentence, which would be prohibited under Graham. Is that
17 --

18 MS. VANN: Yes, Your Honor.

19 MR. BARNETTE: I think part of it too was the
20 reconsideration was the issue too from that standpoint.
21 And at that time Slocumb had not been decided, I think from
22 that standpoint showing -- of course we've had that
23 decision since then.

24 And, like Aiken vs. Byars, prior to the first
25 sentencing, as well as the second sentencing, Aiken vs.

1 Byars was not present at that time. So I would argue that.
2 But I know we're here about the recusal per se. But I
3 just wanted to make sure that was clear on the record from
4 that standpoint.

5 The first case I'd like to talk to Your Honor is State
6 vs. Patrick Jackson. That's 578 S.E. 2d 744. It's a court
7 of appeals case, 2003.

8 And the court basically said -- this was a case
9 involving Judge Jimmy Williams. He'd actually heard a case
10 where he was the deputy solicitor at the time the murder
11 was done or occurred and then heard it as a circuit judge
12 later.

13 And basically the Court says, "It is not enough for
14 the party seeking disqualification to simply allege bias or
15 prejudice. The party must show some evidence of that bias
16 or prejudice. The alleged bias or prejudice must stem from
17 external or extra-judicial source and result in a decision
18 based on information other than what the judge learned from
19 his or per participation in the case as a judge. If there
20 is no evidence of judicial bias or prejudice the judge's
21 failure to disqualify himself should not be reversed on
22 appeal."

23 My argument would be, Your Honor, basically that you
24 have listened to this case. You're the one that originally
25 heard the trial. Obviously, you know the case as well as

1 anybody from that standpoint. And then, obviously, the
2 information you received is from the case itself.

3 There's no evidence whatsoever, external evidence
4 being presented to you or anything else from there. So
5 that would be part of the argument, Your Honor, from there.

6 The second argument, Your Honor, is Simpson vs.
7 Simpson. It's 660 S.C. 2d 274. It's a court of appeals
8 case also, 2008, Your Honor.

9 The party seeking disqualification -- this involved a
10 family court case -- Judge Segars-Andrews, Your Honor.
11 They allege that she had knowledge of the case. But
12 basically says the party seeking disqualification must do
13 more than merely allege bias on the judge's behalf. The
14 party must present some evidence of judicial bias or
15 prejudice in the case. And my argument would be just
16 arguing just because you heard the case and made factual
17 determinations before on this case does not disqualify you
18 on there, Your Honor.

19 And the last case I mentioned -- State vs. Quinn --
20 843 S.E. 2d 355, it's a 2020 case, heard by our supreme
21 court, Your Honor, when the moving party has failed to
22 demonstrate some evidence of judicial bias or prejudice the
23 trial court will not reverse a judge's decision not to
24 recuse.

25 And on that case, obviously, Judge Mullen and

1 solicitor Pascoe, obviously, had a lot of different matters
2 that happened in that case, Your Honor. The supreme court
3 did not see any bias on her.

4 As a matter of fact, kept her as the judge on that
5 case after everything that happened on the Quinn case. And
6 he was not removed by the court.

7 He later voluntarily removed himself. The attorney
8 general wound up being in our office. So I am familiar
9 with that case. With the information that was shown on
10 that they did not find that she should recuse herself in
11 that case.

12 And my argument would be -- I know what Ms. Vann's
13 argument is, but the thing is you have listened to the
14 case.

15 Obviously, you're going to hear new evidence if we
16 have the next hearing, which we're going to have at some
17 point. Additional evidence will be put in there that may
18 persuade you and may not persuade you from that standpoint.

19 But I don't see any -- just because you've ruled on
20 this in the past, I don't think there's any bias. And once
21 you -- I didn't even know an administrative order existed
22 until she just mentioned that about the -- reading what
23 judge -- or Chief Justice Pleicones said and issued at the
24 time. And, obviously, I know.

25 I was going to bring up the Jeter case that's been

1 assigned to you, and I think you have heard that case from
2 there. But I don't see any evidence of any external
3 factors affecting you in any way.

4 THE COURT: Ms. Vann.

5 MS. VANN: Thank you, Your Honor.

6 If I could hand up, Judge, the administrative order in
7 State vs. Atterberry.

8 The administer order was cited in our motion. I just
9 note that.

10 And just briefly in reply, I would say the cases that
11 are cited saying that there needs to be evidence of bias, I
12 would submit that your sentencing deliberations, now twice
13 in this case, you've expressed an opinion on what you think
14 is an appropriate opinion or an appropriate sentence in
15 this case, which makes it very similar to the case of State
16 vs. Atterberry, which is 134 S.C. 392.

17 And in that case the trial judge had expressed an
18 opinion on the guilt of the defendant and was barred from
19 sitting on the resentencing, and the supreme court said the
20 trial judge is the soul of honor and fairness, just,
21 upright and learned. Yet by his remarks at sentencing the
22 defendant -- and he indicated his opinion of the
23 defendant's guilt. He thereby -- thereby disqualifies
24 himself from sitting on the second trial.

25 So just expressing an opinion on the question in the

1 case was enough in this case to disqualify the judge in the
2 eyes of the supreme court. And I would submit that that is
3 very similar to the situation that we have here.

4 And then I would just note that the supreme court has
5 very clearly said that these cases, juveniles must be
6 treated differently for sentencing purposes.

7 They have created new procedures and new factors for
8 consideration, and I think that warrants a new judge to
9 take a look at this case and render the sentencing
10 decision.

11 THE COURT: All right. Let me ask you about the bias.

12 Your position is the bias is the fact that I
13 previously heard the case and imposed a sentence, which
14 expressed my opinion as to the appropriate sentence.

15 MS. VANN: Yes, sir.

16 THE COURT: You've reviewed the record. Did -- like
17 in Atterberry or any other case you might know of is -- is
18 there anything that I have said, like, during those
19 proceedings that indicated some bias towards Mr. Bonner?

20 MS. VANN: I -- it appears to me from both the
21 original sentence and the resentencing that this judge,
22 this court, has expressed an opinion that Mr. Bonner should
23 essentially serve the rest of his life in prison.

24 THE COURT: You're basing that on the sentence I
25 imposed. But what I am saying, did I say anything that

1 would lead you to believe that I was biased against
2 Mr. Bonner.

3 MS. VANN: No, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: You know, did I express -- you know, did I
5 say anything about him or what I thought about him or what
6 he deserved or what kind of person he was or whether he was
7 guilty or not? Of course the jury made that decision. I
8 don't get to make it.

9 That's what I'm getting at. You've reviewed the
10 record. Is there something in there that I -- that I said
11 aside from an imposition of sentence that you think
12 expresses my bias against Mr. Bonner?

13 MS. VANN: No, Your Honor. Our position is that the
14 imposition of the sentence creates kind of an anchoring
15 effect to those previous impositions of the sentences and
16 that is the creation of a bias in this case.

17 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Anything else y'all
18 need to tell me?

19 MS. VANN: No, Your Honor.

20 MR. BARNETTE: Just for the record, what I meant by
21 the administrative order is what I heard from Ms. Vann. I
22 didn't know of any of this administer order from that
23 standpoint. I apologize. Not today but from that
24 standpoint.

25 THE COURT: Well, I can't remember if I read the order

1 or not.

2 I was under the impression it was -- at least it was
3 Justice Pleicones' view that a different judge should be
4 assigned to a resentence.

5 But, as I say, since this order, I'm pretty certain
6 it's been since this order. Well, I know it's been since
7 this order.

8 I've been assigned Aiken hearings for cases that I
9 tried, at least one that I'm aware of. Might be more than
10 one. So apparently that thought process in the supreme
11 court has changed, I guess.

12 MR. BARNETTE: And to let you know, Your Honor, the
13 codefendant was actually heard by Judge Verdin. So they
14 actually assigned one to you and one to another judge, so.

15 THE COURT: Yeah. They were codefendants. One judge
16 got one and I got the other one.

17 Anyway, I'll review the cases and the appropriate
18 canons and issue an order.

19 Dependent upon the outcome, we've had a discussion in
20 chambers about a rescheduling due to a conflict. And, as I
21 understand it, both sides are in agreement that it can be
22 heard on a particular date.

23 MS. VANN: After he spoke, Your Honor, I realized that
24 the expert witness -- and I'm sorry to bring this up
25 again -- he has a medical procedure on the 8th, which is a

1 Thursday.

2 THE COURT: Right.

3 MS. VANN: And, you know, he was keeping clear of the
4 wednesday, the 7th. So I may have a conflict there. I
5 could reach out to him and see if he could change that.

6 THE COURT: All right. why don't you? Yeah. I mean,
7 I tried to accommodate him as much as I could.

8 MS. VANN: I understand. I'm sorry. He was holding
9 the wednesday open.

10 THE COURT: No. I understand. It was set for
11 wednesday. Yeah. Check with him and see if that can be
12 rescheduled.

13 MS. VANN: Okay. I will do that.

14 THE COURT: Okay. Anything else?

15 MR. BARNETTE: Nothing else, Your Honor. Thank you.

16 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

17 END OF REQUESTED TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD

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CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned Linda D. Moffitt, Official Court Reporter for the Seventh Judicial Circuit of the State of South Carolina, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, accurate and complete Transcript of Record of all the proceedings had and evidence introduced in the trial of the captioned cause, relative to appeal, in the Court of General Sessions for Cherokee County, South Carolina, on the 17th day of January 2024.

I do further certify that I am neither of kin, counsel nor interest to any party hereto.

August 2, 2025

s/Linda D. Moffitt

Linda D. Moffitt
Circuit Court Reporter

1 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
2 COUNTY OF CHEROKEE) IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS
3
4 The State,)
5 -vs-) TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD
6 John Bendarian Bonner,) 2009-GS-11-824-829
7 Defendant.) February 8, 2024
8) Gaffney, South Carolina
9
10
11 B E F O R E:
12 HONORABLE J. DERHAM COLE, JUDGE
13
14
15 A P P E A R A N C E S:
16 BARRY JOE BARNETTE, ESQUIRE
17 Attorney for the State
18 LINDSEY STERLING VANN, ESQUIRE
19 ROSALIND SARAH DUVAL MAJOR, ESQUIRE
20 Attorney for the Defendant
21
22
23 Linda D. Moffitt
24 Circuit Court Reporter
25

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EXHIBITS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>ID.</u>	<u>EV.</u>
S-1	Transcript	5	6
S-2	Trial court exhibits	5	6
S-3	Inmate report	5	9

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EXHIBITS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>ID.</u>	<u>EV.</u>
D-1	Letter	5	22
D-2	Diploma	5	22

1 (Proceedings February 8, 2024)
2 (Transcript marked State's Exhibit No. 1 for
3 Identification; trial court exhibits marked State's Exhibit
4 No. 2 for Identification; inmate report marked State's
5 Exhibit No. 3 for Identification; letter marked Defendant's
6 Exhibit No. 1 for Identification; diploma marked Defendant's
7 Exhibit No. 2 for Identification.)

8 THE COURT: All right. State vs. Bonner. Motion for
9 reconsideration of sentence?

10 Ms. Vann.

11 MS. VANN: Good morning, Your Honor.

12 Yes. We're here on a resentencing proceeding for Mr.
13 Bonner.

14 Just two preliminary matters. One is on earlier this
15 week we filed a resentencing procedure memorandum, and I
16 have a hard copy if you would like that.

17 THE COURT: I would. Thank you.

18 MS. VANN: And the second thing is we just renew the
19 motion to recuse. I understand that you've already ruled
20 on that, but we're doing that for the reasons stated in our
21 motion and at the hearing that you held earlier or last
22 month.

23 THE COURT: All right. Well, I haven't changed my
24 mind about it.

25 MS. VANN: Thank you, Your Honor.

1 I believe Solicitor Barnette was planning to do his
2 sentencing presentation first, which is amenable to us if
3 that's how you want to proceed, or we --
4 THE COURT: I'm happy to do it however y'all like.
5 MR. BARNETTE: Whatever the Court decides, Your Honor.
6 It doesn't matter to me.
7 THE COURT: I'll leave it up to y'all.
8 MR. BARNETTE: I don't mind going first if I have a
9 chance to possibly reply if I need to reply.
10 THE COURT: You will.
11 MR. BARNETTE: Your Honor, I talked to Ms. Vann. I've
12 got State's Exhibit 1, which is the transcript of the
13 original trial when it occurred back in 2009.
14 Your Honor, I have State's Exhibit 2, which is the
15 court exhibits that was entered at the actual trial, Your
16 Honor.
17 I'd like to move those and make them part of the
18 evidence and facts of this resentencing hearing at this
19 time. I think there's no objection to that.
20 MS. VANN: No objection.
21 THE COURT: All right.
22 (Transcript marked State's Exhibit No. 1; trial court
23 exhibits marked State's Exhibit No. 2.)
24 MR. BARNETTE: Would you like me to pass these up to
25 Your Honor?

William Thomas Farr
Direct examination by Mr. Barnette

1 THE COURT: Sure. Thank you.

2 MR. BARNETTE: Thank you.

3 And, Your Honor, I'm doing that in lieu of presenting
4 the evidence from the trial because, obviously, we've
5 already had that evidence. I know Your Honor has heard
6 that evidence when you presided over the trial in this
7 case.

8 THE COURT: All right.

9 MR. BARNETTE: Your Honor, I'd like to call William
10 Farr concerning the defendant's record in the department of
11 corrections.

12 WILLIAM THOMAS FARR, having
13 been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

14 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. BARNETTE

15 Q If you would, sir, please state your full name for the
16 record.

17 A My name is William Thomas Farr.

18 Q And where do you work at, sir?

19 A I work for the South Carolina Department of
20 Corrections Office, inspector general.

21 Q And what is your position there, sir?

22 A I'm the chief over the Upstate Region, investigations.

23 Q Okay. And part of with doing investigations and
24 everything do y'all deal with the inmate search detail
25 report and the information on that?

William Thomas Farr
Direct examination by Mr. Barnette

1 A That's correct.

2 Q And have you reviewed Mr. Bonner's record in this
3 case?

4 A I have.

5 Q Let me show you if I...

6 MR. BARNETTE: May I approach the witness, Your Honor?

7 THE COURT: You may.

8 BY MR. BARNETTE

9 Q Let me show you what's been marked as State's Exhibit
10 No. 3. Let you look through that for a second. I know
11 you've probably seen it already.

12 Is that his detail record? I guess it's actually on
13 their website right now.

14 A Yes, sir. That's correct.

15 Q And is that information correct as far as your
16 knowledge?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q And is this --

19 A I'm not -- compare it to the one from the blue zone to
20 the other off, from the internet to see if it's correct.

21 Q So you compared your own records with that.

22 A Right. That's correct.

23 MR. BARNETTE: Your Honor, I'd like to move this into
24 evidence at this time.

25 MS. VANN: No objection, Your Honor.

William Thomas Farr
Direct examination by Mr. Barnette

1 THE COURT: It's admitted.

2 (Inmate report marked State's Exhibit No. 3.)

3 Q Let me let you keep that.

4 How many disciplinaries had Mr. Bonner had in his time
5 with the department of corrections?

6 A He's had 51 disciplinaries.

7 Q Okay. And starting back, when was the first
8 disciplinary he had, sir?

9 A His first disciplinary was in two thousand -- let me
10 see. I'll look back. It was in April the 8th of 2010.

11 Q Okay. I know this just goes back to January 1st of
12 2011, the sheet we have, is that right?

13 A Yeah. I've had the one that come off our -- our blue
14 zone. That's what I'm going by.

15 Q Okay. Do you have a copy of that?

16 A Yes, sir, which is basically the same as...

17 MR. BARNETTE: May I show this to the defense counsel,
18 Your Honor?

19 (Pause.)

20 MR. BARNETTE: Your Honor, shall we make this a
21 court's exhibit or anything like that since he's referring
22 to it?

23 THE COURT: well, he's testifying from it. It doesn't
24 need to be an exhibit unless y'all want it to be.

25 MS. VANN: I don't have an objection to it. It looks

William Thomas Farr
Direct examination by Mr. Barnette

1 like there are just two additional records on that that are
2 not listed on the internet summary.

3 MR. BARNETTE: I'll make it State's Exhibit 4, Your
4 Honor. That way the record will be clear.

5 THE COURT: All right. Well, do you want to do this?
6 Do you want to just attach that to No. 3?

7 MR. BARNETTE: I can, Your Honor, if that's okay and
8 no objection from defense counsel.

9 THE COURT: Any objection to that?

10 MS. VANN: No objection.

11 THE COURT: Okay.

12 MR. BARNETTE: Thank you, Your Honor.

13 May I approach the witness, Your Honor?

14 BY MR. BARNETTE

15 Q Hand that back to you, sir. Thank you.

16 In looking over those, can you tell us what are major
17 infractions on that looking off your sheet that's been
18 attached now to State's Exhibit 3?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 They've got the minors and the major infractions.
21 Minor infractions may be just simply being out of place.
22 You know, supposed to be over here, and you're not. Or
23 you're supposed to go to school, you didn't show up. They
24 could charge you for that. That'd be a minor.

25 Most major infractions are drug charges, sex charges.

William Thomas Farr
Direct examination by Mr. Barnette

1 They are -- they're a major offense. And normally they go
2 before a D.H.O. hearing officer and you get -- for the most
3 part it's a major disciplinary. For the most part you'll
4 go to lockup for a certain amount of time.

5 Q So like on January 8th of 2024, the use of marijuana
6 or drug inhalant, is that considered a major offense?

7 A Yes, sir, that's considered a major offense.

8 Q The October 26th of 2023, the assist with social media
9 site, is that considered?

10 A That's considered a major offense.

11 Q Okay. And then the August 12th of 2023, sexual
12 misconduct.

13 A That's a major offense.

14 Q Okay. And that's marked, I guess, with the exhibits
15 that we added to that, is that right, sir?

16 A Sir?

17 Q That's -- that's in the information we added to the
18 State's Exhibit 3 --

19 A Right, yes, sir.

20 Q -- from there.

21 And going to his statuses -- let's see. I'm going to
22 page -- I believe it's the last -- page five of five of the
23 original State's Exhibit 3 before that other part was added
24 to it.

25 Looking at the -- I guess these are ward keeper

William Thomas Farr
Direct examination by Mr. Barnette

1 starting on May 18th of 2023.

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q And then on August 28th of 2023, that was terminated,
4 is that right?

5 A Yeah. That one was terminated. That was for the --
6 so he worked in -- he was a ward keeper. So that means he
7 worked probably in a dorm.

8 You know, the ward keepers mean they clean the floor,
9 mop floors, restrooms and empty trash. That's the ward
10 keeper's jobs.

11 Q I got you.

12 A And he was terminated because he was placed in lockup.
13 It was placed in S.T.S.P., which that means short-term
14 lockup and/or could be protected concerns. It's got slash.
15 It could be either/or. But this one right here would be
16 short-term lockup.

17 I think -- I would have to pull it back on the
18 computer, but we got detention time for that, which is
19 lockup time.

20 Q Okay. So let me make sure I got it straight.

21 The August 28th, 2023, was that a major disciplinary
22 at that time? The end date was August 28th.

23 A 8/20/23.

24 Q Or 8/28/23. Yes, sir. It's the third one on there.
25 It says ward keeper. It says start date, May 18, 2023, and

William Thomas Farr
Direct examination by Mr. Barnette

1 then ending date August 28th of 2023.

2 A So yes, sir. That's the major crime. That's a social
3 media crime.

4 Q I'm assuming. It just says soft -- drug or major. It
5 says D.I.S.

6 A Yeah. It's assault. That was the sexual misconduct
7 in the visitation room.

8 Q Okay. And was he put in -- he was taken out of the
9 position of ward keeper at that point.

10 A He was a ward keeper at that point according to these
11 records.

12 Q And he was terminated at that point.

13 A He was terminated because he went to lockup.

14 Q Okay. And then the one above it, the end date's
15 October 31st of 2023. Was that when he was placed into
16 S.T./S.P. custody?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q And that was what you was explaining to the judge,
19 what that was earlier.

20 A Yes, sir. That's the S.T.S.P. That's where he was --
21 he was terminated from his job because he was placed in
22 lockup.

23 Q May I borrow your exhibit for a second?

24 MR. BARNETTE: May I approach the bench -- the
25 witness, Your Honor? May I publish this to the Court?

William Thomas Farr
Direct examination by Mr. Barnette

1 THE COURT: You may.

2 MR. BARNETTE: Your Honor, can you see it?

3 THE COURT: I can.

4 BY MR. BARNETTE

5 Q Showing State's Exhibit No. 3 here, the part we were
6 just talking about.

7 THE COURT: Do you have copies over there? Do you
8 have a copy of this?

9 MS. VANN: Yes. I have a copy of this page.

10 BY MR. BARNETTE

11 Q On this here, that's what we were talking about when
12 he was a ward keeper, and that was August 28th of 2023.
13 That was the -- what we were talking about, social media.
14 Is that when he was terminated as ward keeper? Is that
15 right?

16 A That's correct.

17 Q Okay. And then above that on October 31st of 2023, he
18 was put back on ward keeper, and then he was placed into
19 S.T.S.P. custody, is that right?

20 A That's correct.

21 Q And what was that for, again, sir?

22 A Sir?

23 Q What was that, again, for?

24 A Which one is that? What date?

25 Q October 31st. It's this one right here, sir. October

William Thomas Farr
Cross-examination by Ms. Vann

1 31st of 2023.

2 A What page is that on?

3 Q On page five -- five of five. Wait a minute. You
4 don't have it in front of you. So I'll let you look at it.
5 It would be this right here.

6 A Yes. That's the -- that's the -- yes. That's the one
7 he was placed in the sexual misconduct right there.

8 Q I got you.

9 Okay. And, like you were saying, the last three
10 things that he was put in for were major violations, is
11 that correct?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 MR. BARNETTE: Let me show this to the defense, Your
14 Honor. She didn't see this until this morning like I saw
15 it, but I just want to make sure before I show it to him.

16 (Pause.)

17 Q Showing you the addition that was added to that.

18 His last three violations were sexual misconduct.
19 That was August 12th of 2023. That's considered a major
20 violation, is that correct, sir?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q And then assist with social media was October 26th of
23 2023. That was also a major violation.

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q And then January 8th of 2024, the drug offense or the

William Thomas Farr
Cross-examination by Ms. Vann

1 inhalant.

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q That's also considered a major offense.

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q And that was in 2024, is that right?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q And how many instances has he had in the department of
8 corrections, again, sir?

9 A Since he's been incarcerated, 51.

10 Q Okay. If you would, please answer any questions that
11 Ms. Vann may have for you, or the judge.

12 CROSS-EXAMINATION

13 BY MS. VANN

14 Q Good morning. Thank you.

15 A You're welcome.

16 Q Do you have in your records what age Mr. Bonner was
17 when he entered the department of corrections?

18 A They don't have it on this printout here, what age he
19 was. Admission date was 11/19/2009. His age -- well, it's
20 got his age of -- his present age is 33.

21 Q Okay. And have you investigated any of these
22 individual charges?

23 A No, ma'am. These on here are infractions. These are
24 positive violations, and we normally just do criminal
25 investigations.

william Thomas Farr
Cross-examination by Ms. Vann

1 Q And do you know the circumstances underlying any of
2 these violations that you've discussed here?

3 A Just what I've read on the incident reports that they
4 enter into the system.

5 Q Do you know -- do you recall an incident report for
6 the sexual misconduct charge?

7 A I remember that I read it just momentarily again.

8 Q And what were the circumstances of that?

9 A The circumstance, he had a visit on that day. And
10 when he came in -- his visitor came in. He reached around
11 and grabbed her by the rear. And they terminated his visit
12 for that. And he's also went before a D.H.O. hearing.

13 Q Okay. And there was no charge associated with causing
14 a disruption after the termination of his viola -- the
15 visitation, was there?

16 A He was charged with it for a policy violation. Wasn't
17 criminally charged.

18 Q Okay. On the summary sheet does it show that
19 Mr. Bonner earned his G.E.D. while in S.C.D.C.?

20 A What, now?

21 Q Does it show that Mr. Bonner earned his G.E.D. while
22 in custody?

23 A So when -- at a certain age they go into -- if they're
24 incarcerated at a certain age under -- if they're under 21,
25 it's mandated that they have to go to school. They have

1 to.

2 Q And he --

3 A Right.

4 Q On page five of the --

5 A If he doesn't -- if he didn't have one, he has to go.

6 Q Okay. And on page five of the summary it shows that

7 he received his G.E.D. on October 12th of 2010, is that

8 correct?

9 A Yeah. I don't have that particular record with me but

10 probably. If he was under 21, he would have had to go to

11 school and then he would probably get his G.E.D.

12 Q Okay. I believe it is shown on page five of the

13 exhibit. Do you have that in front of you?

14 A Let me look at that one. High school G.E.D. Yes,

15 ma'am. 10/12 of 2010, I see he got a G.E.D.

16 Q Okay. And also on that page does it show that he

17 restarted his job as a ward keeper on October -- I'm

18 sorry -- on November 28th of 2023?

19 A What date was it?

20 Q November 28th of 2023. It shows restarted as the ward

21 keeper.

22 A 28th, yes. Started as ward keeper, yes.

23 Q And there is no termination or ending on that.

24 A No, ma'am.

25 Q I have no further questions. Thank you.

1 MR. BARNETTE: No further questions, Your Honor. We'd
2 ask that the witness be excused.

3 THE COURT: You may step down. If you will, give that
4 exhibit to the court reporter.

5 THE WITNESS: Okay.

6 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

7 MR. BARNETTE: Your Honor, I would like to call
8 Kimberly Keller to the stand.

9 KIMBERLY LEE KELLER, having
10 been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

11 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. BARNETTE

12 Q If you would, ma'am, please state your full name for
13 the record.

14 A Kimberly Lee Keller.

15 Q And what do you do, ma'am?

16 A I'm a clerk at the Redwood store.

17 Q Okay. And back in 2009 did you know the victim in
18 this case?

19 A I did.

20 Q Can you pronounce her name? I always have trouble
21 pronouncing her name.

22 A Dipali Darji.

23 Q Yeah. Thank you for doing that.

24 And at the time this happened back in April of 2009 or
25 two thousand -- I guess 2008 at that time when this event

1 occurred, did you know her at that time?

2 A Yes.

3 Q How did you know her?

4 A She was my coworker.

5 Q Okay. When you heard about what happened to her

6 what -- where did you go or what did you do?

7 A Well, it happened that morning. I showed up for work

8 and everybody was there. And when I walked in, I mean, I

9 was stunned. I mean, I'm still stunned to this day that it

10 happened.

11 Q Did you -- did you -- I know went to the store. Did

12 you actually go in the house too to see what happened?

13 A Not right away, no.

14 Q Did you later on go in the house?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And was it ransacked and everything?

17 A It was destroyed.

18 Q And did you get to see her after that?

19 A I did. I went to see her about probably 6:00 o'clock

20 that evening.

21 Q And was she at the hospital?

22 A She was.

23 Q And what kind of shape was she in?

24 A It was awful. I mean, she was battered and bruised

25 from -- I mean, it was -- it was terrible. No human being

1 should look like that.

2 Q Afterwards, how did it affect her?

3 A It made her scared to be alone. She wouldn't stay at
4 the house by herself. She was scared to come back to work.

5 They would no longer eat there at the store because
6 that was the reasoning, you know, that this happened,
7 because they assumed they was taking money from the store
8 at nighttime. There was just bowls of food empty where
9 they'd ate. She would no longer do that. She would
10 never -- I mean, she still to this day won't stay by
11 herself.

12 Q And did -- did you have to cover for her for a period
13 of time?

14 A I worked for her for six months after it happened. I
15 worked half her shift for her.

16 Q And how was her physical injuries after the fact?

17 A Because Indian folks are vegetarians and don't eat
18 meat, it took her a lot longer to heal than it does us.
19 And she carried her bruises for, I would say, eight to nine
20 months later.

21 Q So your testimony would be it probably still affects
22 her to this day.

23 A Oh, yes, absolutely.

24 Q Please answer any questions that Ms. Vann or the Court
25 may have for you.

Eva Bonner Lipscomb
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

1 A Okay.

2 MS. VANN: I have no questions, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Thank you. You may step down.

4 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

5 MR. BARNETTE: Can the witness be excused if she wants
6 to be?

7 THE COURT: She may be.

8 MR. BARNETTE: Thank you, Your Honor.

9 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

10 MR. BARNETTE: Your Honor, that'd be the state's
11 presentation.

12 THE COURT: All right. Ms. Vann.

13 MS. VANN: Good morning, Your Honor.

14 If I may, we have already discussed a couple of
15 exhibits and I'd like to enter if I may approach.

16 THE COURT: Okay.

17 MS. VANN: May I hand them up to Your Honor?

18 THE COURT: You may.

19 MS. VANN: These are Exhibit 1 is a letter from John
20 Bonner's 15-year-old daughter and Exhibit 2 is his G.E.D.
21 diploma obtained in the department of corrections.

22 MR. BARNETTE: And, Your Honor, I have no objection.
23 They assured that would be part of the hearing.

24 (Letter marked Defendant's Exhibit No. 1; diploma
25 marked Defendant's Exhibit No. 2.)

Eva Bonner Lipscomb
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

1 MS. VANN: And the first witness the defendant would
2 call is Ms. Eva Bonner Lipscomb.

3 EVA BONNER LIPSCOMB, having
4 been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

5 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. VANN

6 Q Good morning. Thank you for being here this morning.

7 A Good morning.

8 Q Could you start by just stating your name for the
9 record, please?

10 A Eva Bonner Lipscomb.

11 Q And where did you live?

12 A I live at Heritage Apartments.

13 Q And how do you know John Bonner?

14 A He is my son.

15 Q I'd like to go back to his childhood a little bit.

16 what was the family that John grew up with? who lived
17 with you?

18 A well, at the time?

19 Q When he was a little kid, say elementary school.

20 A My -- well, first, it was just me and his other three
21 brothers, and then later on I married. So it was my
22 husband, me and his three brothers.

23 Q And who was your husband?

24 A John Lipscomb.

25 Q And was he John Bonner's father?

Eva Bonner Lipscomb
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

1 A Yes.

2 Q How long was his father kind of in the picture with
3 John?

4 A Well, he was in and out, so.

5 Q And why was he in and out?

6 A Because he was in and out of jail.

7 Q What was he in and out jail for?

8 A Checks.

9 Q What do you mean checks?

10 A Writing bad checks.

11 Q And he got arrested and convicted of those charges?

12 A Yes.

13 Q What was your son, John Bonner, like as a young boy?

14 A He was athletic. He liked to play sports, I mean,
15 anything with sports. Football, basketball, track. He
16 loved sports.

17 Q What was his favorable sport?

18 A Basketball.

19 Q Uh-huh. How good was he?

20 A He was good. I really think he would've went to
21 M.B.A.

22 Q Where did you live when John was a young kid?

23 A Well, we stayed on Villa Drive. Well, we didn't stay
24 there, but different places.

25 Q Uh-huh. You mentioned Villa Drive. What kind of

1 neighborhood was that?

2 A It was a quiet neighborhood, probably about ten houses
3 on the street.

4 Q How did John like living there?

5 A He liked it.

6 Q When John was a teenager were there any stressful
7 things that happened in your family?

8 A His oldest brother. He -- he had cancer.

9 Q How did that affect your family?

10 A It affected it a lot --

11 Q How?

12 A -- because I was the only parent in the house and most
13 of my attention went to him.

14 Q Uh-huh. And were you having any physical issues at
15 that time?

16 A I had got injured on -- at work on the job, so yes.

17 Q How did that affect your family financially?

18 A It affected it a whole lot because the money that I
19 was making working, I was the only one going to work,
20 making, and then on top of that my son was sick with
21 cancer.

22 Q Did that cause your family to have to move?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Where did you move?

25 A We moved to West End.

Eva Bonner Lipscomb
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

1 Q Can you describe the west End for me?

2 A Where we stayed, it was like a drug -- a drug
3 neighborhood right next door where they sold drugs, drug
4 activity day and night.

5 Q And about how old was John when you moved to the west
6 End?

7 A Probably 15.

8 Q Fifteen you say?

9 A Or 16. Something like that.

10 Q Uh-huh. And was he exposed to that drug neighborhood
11 you described?

12 A It was right next door.

13 Q How did that affect him?

14 A He seen stuff he hadn't experienced before in his
15 life. He seen boys making money he never seen, and he seen
16 boys having cars with fish tanks, things he -- he never
17 experienced before.

18 Q Uh-huh.

19 A So it was a whole different other life.

20 Q Did John want to help contribute to the family while
21 you were going through the financial stresses?

22 A I would assume he would because he -- that's -- that's
23 the type of person he is.

24 Q Do you think that the influences of the west End
25 contributed to the offense that was charged in 2008?

1 A I do.

2 Q Since John's conviction and custody in the department
3 of corrections, what has your relationship been like with
4 him?

5 A We've drawn closer. He's got more mature and more
6 religious, so.

7 Q And how often do you stay in communication with him?

8 A As much as possible.

9 Q Does he support you?

10 A Like mentally, yes.

11 Q Uh-huh.

12 A I'm down. He's the one that's talked me up.

13 Q And how do you support him?

14 A In any way that I can financially. His kids.

15 Q You mentioned his kids. How many kids does John have?

16 A Three.

17 Q Uh-huh. And what's his relationship like with them?

18 A I mean, it can't be physical any more, so mentally.

19 Q Uh-huh. Does he talk to them about the troubles that
20 he's had?

21 A Yes. Life in general.

22 Q Uh-huh. Does he encourage them not to follow his
23 path?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Have you seen growth in John since he's been

1 incarcerated?

2 A Yes.

3 Q How so?

4 A He's a totally different person. He's matured a whole
5 lot.

6 Q Do you believe that he has learned from his mistakes?

7 A I don't think nothing like this would ever happen
8 again.

9 Q If John were released would you still be supportive of
10 him?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And do you think he would be successful if he were
13 ever released?

14 A I do.

15 Q Please answer any questions the solicitor may have.

16 MR. BARNETTE: May it please the Court, Your Honor.

17 CROSS-EXAMINATION

18 BY MR. BARNETTE

19 Q Ma'am, has Mr. Bonner talked to you about what he did
20 that night? Has Mr. Bonner talked to you about what he did
21 that night?

22 A No.

23 Q Okay. So -- he hasn't admitted to you or anything
24 like that what happened that night.

25 A No.

1 Q When did y'all move to the west side?

2 A Probably when he was 14 or 15 or 16, somewhere in
3 there.

4 Q Do you know exactly when or have an idea how old he
5 was?

6 A No. I'm -- I'm thinking we moved over there in
7 2006 -- seven. I'm not really sure.

8 Q Okay. I got you from there.

9 Now, he spent 397 days in the department of
10 corrections in North -- or in custody in North Carolina,
11 didn't he?

12 A Yes.

13 Q So he was there, and that was on an attempted
14 trafficking cocaine charge. So he was there for 397 days.

15 A Yes.

16 Q He got credit for that time served on that, is that
17 correct?

18 A Yes.

19 Q So he was gone during that time.

20 A Yes.

21 Q And that was in North Carolina, which is not even in
22 this state.

23 A Yes.

24 Q Okay. At that time. And before this crime occurred
25 wasn't he on bond for another crime, at that time for a

1 common-law robbery?

2 A Not that I know of.

3 Q Okay. You don't know he was on bond at that time?

4 A No.

5 Q And part of that bond was not to go out of state?

6 A I didn't know nothing about him being on a bond for a
7 common-law robbery.

8 Q So you only knew about the trafficking cocaine, is
9 that right, or the attempted trafficking cocaine charge in
10 North Carolina?

11 A I -- again, I heard about that, yeah.

12 Q Okay. Because, obviously, he was gone at the time.

13 A Yeah.

14 Q Did you ever go see him up there at that time or
15 anything?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Okay. So he was definitely up there in custody.

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay. From there. And how old was he when that
20 happened, ma'am?

21 A He had to be about, what, 17.

22 Q Uh-huh. That's for more than a year at that time. So
23 he was arrested when he was 17, right, on this charge?

24 A Well, this, the charge that it is now, that happened
25 after that --

1 Q Right.

2 A -- when he went to North Carolina.

3 Q Yeah. This happened -- this happened after the North
4 Carolina charge, right?

5 A No. This happened before when -- when this happened,
6 then he went to North Carolina.

7 Q So it wasn't because of this trafficking, attempted
8 trafficking, cocaine charge, was it?

9 A What?

10 Q Let me make sure I make it clear from there.

11 He had the attempted cocaine charge prior to the
12 events on this.

13 A No.

14 Q The disposition -- and this is May 20th of 2008.

15 A Yeah. This here happened in April.

16 Q April of 2009, I think, ma'am, from that standpoint.

17 A Well, I meant when he left -- when this happened, he
18 left. When he left, then that's when that happened.

19 Q Right. I think -- I think we're in two things. To
20 make sure, when this occurred, this crime we're dealing
21 with today --

22 A Yeah.

23 Q -- when he did that, he went to North Carolina then
24 too, didn't he?

25 A I mean, that's the only other charge he done had.

1 Q Okay.

2 A After that happened he went to North Carolina, and
3 then while he was in North Carolina with someone else that
4 happened.

5 Q Okay. So you're saying he was charged with this
6 charge while he was up there after this event occurred.

7 A Yes.

8 Q Okay.

9 A When they arrested him, they arrested him in North
10 Carolina.

11 Q Okay. But you agree he's been convicted of attempting
12 to traffic cocaine up in North Carolina.

13 A Yes.

14 Q And that he left after this event occurred. He left
15 and went to North Carolina.

16 A After this?

17 Q Yes, ma'am.

18 A Yeah. After this happened, then he went to North
19 Carolina.

20 Q Okay. And was it common for him to spend time in
21 North Carolina?

22 A No.

23 Q It was not.

24 A No.

25 Q Thank you, ma'am.

Latrice Blanding
Direct examination by Ms. Major

1 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

2 BY MS. VANN

3 Q If the warrant says that this incident occurred in
4 April 2nd of 2008, does that sound correct?

5 A Uh-huh.

6 Q After that he went to North Carolina.

7 A Uh-huh.

8 Q You said with someone else?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Who was he with?

11 A Lionel Tate.

12 Q And who was that to John?

13 A Cousin.

14 Q Okay. And did they commit the attempted trafficking
15 together?

16 A I mean, that's what they say.

17 MS. VANN: I have no further questions, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Thank you. You may step down.

19 MS. MAJOR: The defense calls Latrice Blanding.

20 LATRICE BLANDING, having been
21 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

22 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. MAJOR

23 Q Good morning.

24 A Good morning.

25 Q Could you please state your name for the record?

Latrice Blanding
Direct examination by Ms. Major

- 1 A Latrice Blanding.
- 2 Q And where do you live?
- 3 A Greenville, South Carolina.
- 4 Q And what do you do for a living?
- 5 A I'm a chef. I own a catering company. And I am a
- 6 full-time worker at a bank. And also -- I'm also in school
- 7 for getting my master's.
- 8 Q That's a lot of things.
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q Do you know John Bonner?
- 11 A I do.
- 12 Q And how long have you known John Bonner?
- 13 A Since about 20 -- about 20 years -- 20 years.
- 14 Q Okay. When did you first meet John?
- 15 A We were at a -- one of my best friends when I was
- 16 younger was his cousin. So we were at a football game. I
- 17 was with her, and that's how I met him.
- 18 Q And about how old were you at the time?
- 19 A Maybe like 14.
- 20 Q And are you and John the same age?
- 21 A No. I am a year older.
- 22 Q Did you go to the same high school growing up?
- 23 A High school, yes.
- 24 Q Okay. And during that time in high school, what was
- 25 your relationship with John like?

Latrice Blanding
Direct examination by Ms. Major

1 A We were friends. We've always been friends since I
2 met him, but we had, like, different friend groups. So,
3 yeah. We weren't, like, you know, we didn't hang out,
4 like, a lot. We would talk. We would talk a lot. But,
5 you know, he was with his friends and I was with mine.

6 Q Okay. And what was -- what was John like at that time
7 when he was a --

8 A He was a sweetheart.

9 Q Yeah.

10 A Yeah. He was like super caring. He was always a
11 different person when it was just like him and I versus
12 when I would see him around school. Yeah. He was a real
13 sweetheart.

14 Q Yeah. What do you mean by different person?

15 A I mean, as kids, you know, you're growing and you're
16 trying to navigate. It was like he was kind of influenced
17 by the crowd that he was with. So he was just like, you
18 know, trying to adapt, trying to, yeah.

19 Q Yeah. And what kind of things was John interested in
20 at that time?

21 A Sports, basketball.

22 Q Yeah. Was he good at basketball?

23 A He was -- he was pretty good.

24 Q And, you know, you guys were growing up around the
25 same time. Was your upbringing similar to John's?

Latrice Blanding
Direct examination by Ms. Major

1 A Oh, no, no.

2 Q What was it like in comparison to his?

3 A I grew up outside of the city limits. It's, like,
4 really in the country part of town. My family was on,
5 like, 68 acres. So it was literally outside of everything.
6 My family lived in a big circle so I had, you know, people
7 to -- to interact with there. But he was from the city,
8 so, yeah, it was totally different.

9 Q Yeah. And did you know what neighborhood he lived in
10 in the city?

11 A Yeah.

12 Q And what neighborhood was that?

13 A West End.

14 Q And what did you know about the West End at that time?

15 A Well, I -- I remember when I first got my car, my dad
16 was like don't go over there to West End. So I didn't
17 know. I didn't know. I just knowed I wasn't supposed to
18 go. And I knew that it was, like, you know, kind of
19 violent, drug activity and stuff.

20 Q And did you know if John was dealing with -- dealing
21 with family things or, you know, pressures around this time
22 when he was a teen?

23 A I have found out that his brother was sick through my
24 friend. So that's how I heard about that.

25 Q And how did that affect John?

1 A Because I knew him, I knew that it was -- he was hurt
2 by it, because I knew he didn't want, like, he couldn't fix
3 it and he -- his heart is so big, like, he was just -- he's
4 always trying to fix things and -- and be there for people
5 and literally give you the shirt off his back. So I knew
6 that he was probably hurting at that time.

7 Q Yeah. And around this time did your relationship with
8 John change at all?

9 A When we were kids, teenagers, our relationship was
10 kind of -- our friendship had always been constant, but our
11 relationship, you know, we would communicate and then we
12 would not communicate. Again, that was because we were in
13 different social groups, so.

14 Q And at some point did you start to follow out of
15 communication with him?

16 A I wouldn't necessarily say fall out. I would -- I
17 would say we were distant for different times throughout
18 our friendship, yeah.

19 Q And when did you learn that he was charged with this
20 crime?

21 A You mean in like a time or --

22 Q Yes.

23 A I heard about the crime, but I didn't hear until later
24 on that they say he had some type of involvement, so.

25 Q And how did you learn about that? How did you hear

1 about it?

2 A Through -- through my friend. Yeah. She -- she told
3 me.

4 Q And what were your thoughts when you heard about it?

5 A There's no way, like, because it wasn't him. It was
6 outside of the person that I felt like I knew the real him.
7 I felt like it was outside of who he is and who he was.

8 Q And I know you said that your relationship has kind
9 of, you know, grown distance and distant and come back
10 together. Did you stay in touch with John when he was
11 first incarcerated?

12 A Yes.

13 Q And how would you stay in touch?

14 A Letters. Whenever he would call, you know, he could,
15 you know could. That's how. But a lot in the beginning it
16 was a lot of those.

17 Q And what -- what's your impression of what those early
18 years in prison were like for John?

19 A I could tell because he was so young and still had --
20 I mean, he was still a kid. I could tell that he was
21 trying to figure out and navigate, but I could just tell,
22 like, it was devastating to him. And mentally he was all
23 over the place.

24 But, yeah, he was -- it -- it was just different, and
25 it wasn't him. It wasn't the person that I had known so

Latrice Blanding
Direct examination by Ms. Major

1 many years prior. I could just tell, like, it was kinda
2 taking a toll on him.

3 Q And while he's been incarcerated, was there a period
4 where you stopped, kinda of, talking to each other
5 frequently?

6 A Yes. So we stayed in contact, I believe, from the
7 time he went in to about 2012. From 2012 to probably about
8 five years we had no communication.

9 Q And at some point did you reconnect?

10 A We did.

11 Q And when was that?

12 A We reconnected, I want to say, in 2016. It was just,
13 you know, periodic calls or letters or -- but during that
14 time I -- I would always reach out to people that I knew
15 that were connected to him like his mom just to check to
16 make sure he was okay, to see how he was doing. But our
17 relationship got stronger around, I want to say, like
18 twenty -- either 2020 or 2021.

19 Q And was -- was something -- how did you, you know, end
20 up reconnecting and talking more consistently?

21 A I would say I was going through, like, a really tough
22 time within, like, my personal life to where I just knew
23 that, because he was always that person to me. He was
24 always that friend to me that I could just talk to about
25 anything. He would always, like, encourage me. And just

Latrice Blanding
Direct examination by Ms. Major

1 knowing that he had been there so long, so young, but he
2 still had the strength to, you know, pour into me. And I
3 knew it was like a nonjudgmental thing because our
4 relationship has always been like pure.

5 So, yeah, me being able to talk to him when I could
6 and just talk his head off about anything that was going on
7 with me, it was just like a selfless act because I was
8 really going through a lot. And it was a selfless act for
9 him to just listen and just encourage me to keep going.

10 Q And what's your relationship been with, like, been
11 with him since, like, with him since you reconnected?

12 A Oh, it's amazing because I see -- I think it's a
13 privilege actually to see him from 13 or 14 to 33. It's a
14 total transformation.

15 The thing that hasn't changed is his heart and how
16 much he loves and how much he cares about, you know, people
17 that actually care about him. But to see how far he's --
18 he's grown and matured in an environment that he's been in
19 since he was a teenager, I mean, it's admirable --
20 admirable. It's inspiring. Yeah. I don't know if I
21 would -- I would have been able to -- to strengthen my
22 mental state and the spiritual. Yeah. We have a lot of
23 spiritual talks, and it's just -- I don't know. It's
24 great.

25 Q Yeah. And you just mentioned that you have a lot of

Latrice Blanding
Direct examination by Ms. Major

1 spiritual talks. Has John's faith grown since he has been
2 incarcerated?

3 A Absolutely, absolutely.

4 Q In what ways has it grown?

5 A I mean, we just have those talks. We have those talks
6 about what the Bible says. We -- we talk about -- you
7 know, we pray. We pray a lot.

8 We speak that type of language to each other so, yeah,
9 like, to hear him, like, mention scriptures or to mention,
10 you know, he likes to say he's just laying and praying, he
11 literally is laying there praying. It's just a totally
12 different man. He's grown to be an amazing man.

13 Q Do you feel like he's supportive to you in your own
14 faith?

15 A Absolutely.

16 Q In what ways?

17 A Because he listens. He doesn't judge me when I go on
18 my faith rants or my spiritual talks. And he -- we
19 actually engage. We engage in those type of spiritual
20 journeys together.

21 Q And I'm sorry to have to ask you about this, but it
22 was mentioned a little earlier today. You know John got in
23 trouble last year after a visit. Were you a part of that
24 visit?

25 A I was.

Latrice Blanding
Direct examination by Ms. Major

1 Q Can you explain what happened?

2 A Yeah. So since, I want to say 2022, I was visiting
3 every weekend, and every weekend I would go it's the same.

4 So we would hug, we would kiss, and he would hug me
5 and run his hand down my back.

6 And this particular time it wasn't approved maybe, but
7 it wasn't a sexual grab or groping or anything of that
8 sort.

9 I was shocked because I -- if I would have known that
10 those type of consequences would have come from us doing
11 what we would normally do, I would have never, because now
12 I can't go. I can't see his face. I can't hug him, so.

13 Q And how did John respond when the officer came over to
14 end your visit?

15 A He was calm. He was calm and he was, you know,
16 cooperative. And I could tell he was sad, but it wasn't
17 like a disturbance or anything like that.

18 Q And I think you mentioned this, but has it interrupted
19 your ability to visit with John?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Do you look forward to being able to visit him again?

22 A Yes.

23 Q I'm going to have a few more questions for you. Thank
24 you for talking with me. Do you know John's kids?

25 A I do.

Latrice Blanding
Direct examination by Ms. Major

1 Q And what's John like with his kids?

2 A The same way he is with everyone else. He's very
3 encouraging. Especially, he likes to try to talk them into
4 making good decisions, try to be the example and want them
5 to do better.

6 Q Is he present for them while he's been incarcerated?

7 A He is.

8 Q And do you have any kids?

9 A I do. I have a 13-year-old son.

10 Q And does John know your son?

11 A He does.

12 Q And what's he like with your son? Do they -- do they
13 interact?

14 A They do. They talk sometimes. A lot of times they
15 talk when I'm, like, can you please talk to him because I
16 don't know how boys operate and this is happening.

17 So, you know, when he gets the chance, he will call
18 and, you know, encourage him and -- and things like that.
19 They have those type of talks that, you know, only my son
20 would want to talk with another male, so yeah.

21 Q And does your son also like basketball?

22 A He does.

23 Q Does John talk to him about basketball?

24 A I'm sure they've had a lot of conversations I don't
25 know about, so.

1 Q And if John were eventually released, do have plans
2 for where he may live?

3 A Oh, yeah. We -- we planned for him to come to
4 Greenville.

5 Q And do those plans involve him getting a job?

6 A Oh, yeah. My sister is actually a director at S.C.
7 Works.

8 So I -- for the past, like, year or year and a half
9 she's been telling me about, you know, employers that --
10 she's compiling a list of employers that she knows directly
11 and that would be able to give him employment.

12 He's excited because he's never had a job, like, he's
13 never -- he's never been an employee. So he's excited
14 about it.

15 Q And because you have a son and you're a single parent,
16 would you trust him to be around your son?

17 A Oh, yeah, absolutely. I trust -- if I trust -- if I
18 trust him with my son's ear, that means I'm trusting him
19 with his heart, which means I trust him enough to be a part
20 of my life, so yes.

21 Q And would you trust him to stay out of trouble?

22 A Oh, yeah, absolutely.

23 Q Please answer any questions the solicitor may have.

24 A Okay.

25 MR. BARNETTE: May it please the Court, Your Honor.

1 CROSS-EXAMINATION

2 BY MR. BARNETTE

3 Q I just have a couple of questions for you, ma'am.

4 I think you said he never had a job as far as you knew
5 before he was incarcerated.

6 A No, not as far as I know.

7 Q Okay. And the two children that he has, those -- were
8 those with the same lady or two different ladies?

9 A Different.

10 Q Different. Did you know --

11 A There's three.

12 Q Did you know -- did you know them?

13 A The ladies?

14 Q Yes, ma'am.

15 A I do.

16 Q Did they go to school with y'all at Gaffney?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Okay. And what age were they? Were they about the
19 same age as y'all were?

20 A I think older.

21 Q Older?

22 A I think a year older than me.

23 Q And you were 14 and he was 13.

24 A Yeah.

25 Q So they would have been 15 or --

George Martin
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

- 1 A They were probably around 15, maybe 16.
- 2 Q And he has two children, is that right?
- 3 A Three.
- 4 Q Three. Who's the third child?
- 5 A I know his nickname. I don't know his name.
- 6 Q Is that with the same two ladies or a different lady?
- 7 A Different.
- 8 Q Okay. Did they also go to school with you?
- 9 A Correct.
- 10 Q All three. So all three of them went to high school
- 11 with y'all.
- 12 A Correct.
- 13 Q Okay. Do you know the ages of his children now?
- 14 A I want to say 15, 16 and 18.
- 15 Q Were they all born before he was incarcerated or was
- 16 one born after he was incarcerated? Do you know?
- 17 A One was born after he was incarcerated.
- 18 Q So that --
- 19 A Well, no. Two were born after he was incarcerated.
- 20 One before.
- 21 Q Before. But they're definitely his children.
- 22 A Correct.
- 23 Q Thank you, ma'am.
- 24 MS. MAJOR: We have no further questions.
- 25 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. You may step down.

George Martin
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

1 MS. MAJOR: Your Honor, we would just ask that she be
2 released.

3 THE COURT: She may be.

4 MS. MAJOR: Thank you.

5 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

6 MS. VANN: Your Honor, the defense calls George
7 Martin.

8 GEORGE MARTIN, having been
9 first duly sworn, testified as follows:

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. VANN

11 Q Good morning, Mr. Martin.

12 A Good morning.

13 Q Could you please state your name for the record?

14 A George M. Martin.

15 Q And what is your current employment status?

16 A I'm retired from the state department of corrections
17 and do a little consulting work from time to time.

18 Q Maybe we could just walk through your work experience
19 a little bit. Can you talk about your employment history?

20 A Yes, ma'am. I'll try to give you the cliff notes
21 version.

22 Q Yeah. The overview.

23 A It's pretty long. I've been around a long time.

24 My work in corrections began as a young officer in the
25 Army Military Police Corps. I served three years of active

George Martin
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

1 duty. And when I left there I was a commanding officer at
2 the post stockade at Fort Jackson.

3 From there I was employed by the state department of
4 corrections as the admin assistant to the warden at the old
5 central prison.

6 From there I moved through the ranks as a
7 classification officer, deputy warden, and then was later
8 promoted to the -- to the warden position at the Manning
9 Correctional Institution where I was assigned for almost
10 five years.

11 And from there I was appointed warden at the Kirkland
12 Correctional Institution and was there for another nearly
13 five years.

14 Then I spent three years in the administration
15 building as a deputy regional director and then was the
16 warden at the Broad River Correctional Institution for
17 approximately seven years.

18 Then after that I was selected as the director of
19 regional operations for the Eastern Correctional Region.

20 And from there I retired in 1998. And since that time
21 I've been -- been involved in one way or another with
22 corrections related activity.

23 I've worked with a couple of different companies that
24 were contracted with immigration and customs to do
25 inspections and reviews of operations in facilities that

George Martin
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

1 were contracted to -- to hold illegal immigrants. I did
2 that for several years, and along with some other things
3 like that.

4 Q And over the course of that history have you gotten
5 additional education?

6 A Yes, ma'am. I -- well, I came to active duty in the
7 Army with a -- with a baccalaureate degree from the
8 University of Georgia and later a master's in public
9 administration from U.S.C. and have either been employed as
10 an instructor or as a student in a -- in numerous seminars
11 and programs and training programs and things like that
12 throughout my career.

13 Q And have you been involved in John Bonner's case?

14 A Say that again. I'm sorry.

15 Q How have you been involved in John Bonner's case?
16 what were you asked to do?

17 A well, I was asked to review his -- his past, the
18 circumstances of his incarceration, how he has -- how he
19 has dealt with that and -- and, I guess, primarily the --
20 the fact that -- or the issue concerning the -- the nature
21 of his crime and the -- and the proportionality of -- of
22 the sentence that was imposed.

23 Q Were you asked to assess John Bonner's behavior for
24 rehabilitation?

25 A Yes, ma'am.

George Martin
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

1 Q And I think you mentioned this. What did you do to
2 conduct that assessment?

3 A Well, I reviewed all of the available department of
4 corrections' records concerning the case and -- and
5 conducted two fairly lengthy interviews with him, one in
6 person at the Kershaw institution and then more recently a
7 zoom call with him here a few days ago.

8 Q And did you talk to anyone else about their experience
9 with John?

10 A Yes, ma'am. I spoke with both his mother and his --
11 his lady friend.

12 Q And did you talk to his father?

13 A I did. Yes. I did.

14 Q Where is he?

15 A He is a fellow inmate at the Kershaw Correctional
16 Institution, and they got reacquainted as -- as -- not as
17 cellmates but assigned to the same cell block. And that
18 was where they -- they had known each other best or do know
19 each other.

20 MS. VANN: Your Honor, we would move to qualify Mr.
21 Martin as an expert in prison systems and inmate behavior.

22 MR. BARNETTE: I have no questions for him, Your
23 Honor.

24 THE COURT: All right. He is qualified.

25 MS. VANN: Thank you, Your Honor.

George Martin
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

1 BY MS. VANN

2 Q I would like to walk through John's incarceration.

3 Can you talk about the circumstances of him entering the
4 department of corrections?

5 A Yes, ma'am. He -- when he was -- when he was remanded
6 to the department of corrections he was 17 years old with
7 a -- with a life-without-parole sentence.

8 And given the -- the nature of -- of the crime that he
9 was convicted of and -- and -- and the duration of his
10 sentence, that limited where he would be assigned to a high
11 security, so-called heavy duty, institution, not where
12 normally a 17-year-old would -- would be assigned under any
13 other circumstances than that.

14 Q And is it possible he was a little older than 17 when
15 he actually got to the department of corrections? I think
16 he entered in 2009. Might have been 18.

17 A Might have been, yeah.

18 Q Okay. But he was still a teenager when he entered the
19 department of corrections.

20 A Yes, ma'am.

21 Q And how is his adjustment to the prison system?

22 A Well, he had some difficult choices to make when he --
23 when he was incarcerated.

24 First of all, I'll say up front there's very little
25 that can be said about the heinous nature of his crime

George Martin
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

1 that -- that I would disagree with. That's not an issue
2 for the sake of my -- my remarks.

3 But at that age and coming into a -- a prison
4 population such as he did in a -- in a high security
5 facility, he had a couple of bad choices to make.

6 Those institutions are -- are understaffed and
7 overpopulated with, for the most part, serious criminals
8 and gang activity and -- and all of the things that a --
9 where an 18-year-old should not otherwise be.

10 So, he had a choice of either submitting to the
11 pressures to either join a gang or -- or, even worse,
12 becoming a habitual victim of -- of sexual assault and
13 whatever else. But he opted not to do that.

14 And to the best I think he probably could have done,
15 he -- he adjusted and in that regard became
16 institutionalized. He learned to manipulate his
17 circumstances to meet his needs.

18 And that of course led to a -- to a fairly lengthy
19 history of minor misconduct and -- and some abuse of
20 substance and -- and things related to that.

21 But he did not get involved with a gang, and at least
22 for the last five or six years he's not been involved in
23 any assaultive behavior that I'm aware of other than the
24 incident in the -- in the visiting room that's been
25 described. And that's kind of a gross characterization of

George Martin
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

1 a -- of a serious crime, I think.

2 Q And have you talked to John about his disciplinary
3 history?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q And, well, are there any types of disciplinary charges
6 that he's had that you would categorize that he has
7 repeatedly?

8 A That he's what? I'm sorry.

9 Q That he has had repeatedly. Has he had multiple drug
10 charges while in the department?

11 A Yes, ma'am. He's had multiple drug charges and some
12 several possession of a cell phone, which is taken very
13 seriously in -- in that environment.

14 Q Did he tell you why he had a cell phone?

15 A Yes, ma'am. He -- he said that -- that he had had the
16 phone for really no other purpose than maintaining some
17 quality of contact with his family, particularly with his
18 children. And that's an easy excuse, I know, but given all
19 else that -- that I -- I think I know about him, I -- that
20 to some extent was understandable.

21 And to the -- and the fact is that he -- there's --
22 there's no evidence that -- that he was involved in
23 big-time drug traffickering or anything that would have
24 involved the use of a cell phone.

25 Q In your review of his time at the department of

George Martin
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

1 corrections did you identify anything that he's done to
2 grow and develop as a person?

3 A Yes, ma'am. He -- he was asked earlier about having
4 achieved his -- his G.E.D. whether or not that was
5 entirely voluntary, I -- I'm not sure what the current
6 policy is. But the fact remains he did it and seemed to
7 have done it successfully.

8 And he's been involved in some other self-help
9 training programs and things like that.

10 He's had a few meaningful, productive jobs. Not as
11 many as he should have had, but the fact remains he -- he
12 has worked in the cafeteria and a few other meaningful
13 assignments like that.

14 But I think perhaps the most -- one of the more
15 significant things is that at the Kershaw institution where
16 he's presently assigned he was at least for a while, was --
17 was in what's known as the honor dorm, which -- which is
18 intended for inmates who are not habitual problem people.

19 And when he got involved in one of the infractions
20 that -- that's been mentioned, that of course disqualified
21 him for -- for remaining there. But the fact was that he
22 had done well enough to have been in the honor dorm for
23 some period of time.

24 Q Has he expressed to you any desire to get back in the
25 character honor dorm or to get a more meaningful work

George Martin
Direct examination by Ms. Vann

1 assignment?

2 A Yes, ma'am. He and I talked about that at some
3 length. The honor dorm is a -- dorm is a quieter, safer
4 place in -- in that environment, and so Mr. Bonner has
5 enough insight and understanding of that that he would like
6 very much to get -- get back there.

7 So far as his employment is concerned, he and I have
8 had a couple of what I described as Dutch uncle discussions
9 where I admonished him pretty severely about the importance
10 of a productive job and getting off his chair and going and
11 trying to find a -- a meaningful job.

12 There are a lot more -- I should say that there are a
13 whole lot more inmates than there are productive jobs in
14 the institutions and that gets to be a problem. There --
15 there are lengthy waiting lists for jobs in the industry's
16 programs and the cafeteria and school and everything else.

17 So the -- the fact that he spent much of his time as a
18 dorm keeper or grounds keeper picking up cigarette butts 20
19 or 30 minutes a day, that's not all entirely his fault.

20 Q Were you able to talk to -- I'm sorry. You said you
21 had talked to his mother and his friend Latrice. Did they
22 provide you any insight about his maturity within the
23 prison system?

24 A They did. I thought perhaps the most meaningful
25 comment I heard made was by Mr. Bonner while I dis -- I

1 asked him about his relationship with his mother. And
2 among the first things he said was that she is my
3 superhero. And given his experience up to -- to -- to this
4 point, he -- he's needed more than one superhero, and she's
5 been a worthy one.

6 But in her description of him when I spoke with her
7 she -- she characterized him as kindhearted. That was the
8 term she used. And that seems consistent with what I think
9 I know about him from our discussions.

10 Ms. Blanding -- her -- in discussing the repelling
11 nature of the crime that he was involved in, her initial
12 reaction was that that's just not him. And I took that to
13 mean that was just completely out of character with
14 anything she'd ever thought she'd known about him. And I
15 think that's -- I thought that was probably true at the
16 time.

17 Q When you spoke with Mr. Bonner did he accept
18 responsibility for the crime he was charged with?

19 A Yes, ma'am.

20 Q He didn't deny it to you.

21 A Not at all.

22 Q In your opinion has John Bonner's behavior been such
23 that you believe he could adjust to the community if
24 allowed an opportunity for release?

25 A I think so. You know, he's -- he has quite literally

George Martin
Cross-examination by Mr. Barnette

1 grown from adolescence to adulthood while incarcerated in
2 the most difficult prison environment available. But, like
3 I said, in spite of that he -- he doesn't strike me as
4 being criminally oriented. I don't think he would be a --
5 a repeat offender.

6 Q Thank you, Mr. Martin. Please answer any questions
7 from the state.

8 A Sure.

9 MR. BARNETTE: May it please the Court, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

11 MR. BARNETTE: May I approach the witness Your Honor?

12 THE COURT: You may.

13 CROSS-EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. BARNETTE

15 Q Can I stand beside you, sir, if that's okay?

16 A Sure.

17 Q Let me let you -- these are what we call Aiken factors
18 involving with that.

19 A What kind of factor?

20 Q Aiken. It's a state that's -- Aiken vs. Byars factors
21 from there. I just wanted you to read through those for
22 there and --

23 A All right.

24 Q -- go through those. And I can read them to you if
25 you'd like me to.

George Martin
Cross-examination by Mr. Barnette

1 A well, you might want to read through them for the
2 record.

3 Q Yes, sir. I will.

4 A I can see hear better than I can see.

5 Q Yes, sir. I understand.

6 The first one I'd like to ask you about, the
7 chronological age of the offender and the hallmark features
8 of youth including the immaturity, impetuosity, failure to
9 appreciate the risks and consequences. Is that something
10 that you took into effect when you talked to him and
11 created your report?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q The second one. The family and home environment
14 surrounding the offender. Did you take that into
15 consideration?

16 A I did.

17 Q The circumstances of the homicide offense including
18 the extent of offender's participation, the conduct and how
19 familiar peer pressures may have affected him. Did you
20 take that into consideration?

21 A You said homicide. There was not --

22 Q Excuse me. Not homicide. I mean -- I'm sorry. I was
23 reading clearly from the case from there. But the crime
24 itself.

25 A Yes, sir.

George Martin
Cross-examination by Mr. Barnette

1 Q Did you take that into consideration?

2 A I did.

3 Q I'm sorry. That's what the opinion says.

4 A I understand.

5 Q I appreciate you listening and correcting me on that.

6 The incompetencies associated with youth. For
7 example, the offender's ability to deal with police
8 officers, prosecutors including on a plea agreement or the
9 offender's capability or incapability to assist his own
10 attorneys. Did you take that into consideration when you
11 looked at it?

12 A Let me look at it.

13 Q That's No. 4.

14 A Yeah. I don't --

15 Q You talked to him about the crime and his involvement
16 in things like that?

17 A We did -- we did. And he -- he was very candid and
18 forthcoming with -- with what he wanted me to -- to believe
19 was his role in the -- in the crime.

20 Q And did he talk about talking to his attorneys and
21 things like that and going through that and things like
22 that too?

23 A As it related to the -- to the -- to the crime?

24 Q Yes, sir.

25 A No. I don't know that I did.

George Martin
Cross-examination by Mr. Barnette

1 Q Okay. But would you feel like that -- well, I may go
2 back to that. And then of course, five, the possibility of
3 rehabilitation. Did y'all talk about that or look at that
4 when you looked at it?

5 A Yes, sir. And if I can expand just a little bit on
6 that --

7 Q Yes, sir.

8 A -- rehabilitation is kind of a buzz term that -- that
9 I think is often overused.

10 And in Mr. Bonner's case, I'm not sure that
11 rehabilitation as such is necessarily the -- the
12 appropriate term because I don't -- I haven't perceived Mr.
13 Bonner as being, ever having been a -- a criminal
14 mentality.

15 He -- he grew up in circumstances that for most of us
16 would find awful. He -- he did not have a -- a positive
17 male role model. You heard about his -- his father. And
18 his only meaningful relationship with him has been in
19 recent months as a fellow convict.

20 But in spite of all of that, you know, he's -- he's --
21 and in spite of the, as I said the, repelling facts about
22 the -- the crime itself I --

23 Q I guess what --

24 A I think -- I think he could make a -- a satisfactory
25 adjustment to -- to the community again, I guess, is what

1 I'm trying to get.

2 Q Okay. I'm just asking the questions because that's
3 one of the factors we have to consider from there.

4 A I understand. Yes, sir.

5 Q But the possibility of rehabilitation, what does that
6 mean to you, I guess?

7 A Well, it's -- it's having the opportunity or taking
8 the -- taking advantage of the opportunity to prepare one's
9 self for return to the -- to the community.

10 Q And did y'all talk about that? Did you take that into
11 consideration when you did your report?

12 A I don't know that we did exactly in those terms, but
13 we did talk about what his future would be like if -- if he
14 were returned to the community. So I guess a short answer
15 is yes.

16 Q Let me ask you, sir, if I can. What did he tell you
17 about the crime itself?

18 A Well, I'm -- I'm concerned that almost anything I
19 would say would sound like I was trying to minimize the
20 nature of the -- the crime, and I'm not.

21 Q Yes, sir. I understand. But I just wanted to see
22 what he told you.

23 A Well, at some point I think I used the term that I
24 said it sounds to me like it was a purse snatching that
25 went terribly wrong and -- and he kinda agreed with that.

1 And I -- and I think that's probably true, you know. In
2 spite of the horrible things that happened as a result,
3 that had been their initial intention.

4 Q And what did he say about that or whatever if you
5 talked to him about that? What did he say to you about the
6 event or about the -- what happened?

7 A I can't give you a -- a quote, but it was pretty
8 apparent to me that it -- it came to him quickly that he
9 was in way over his head with something that he had no
10 earthly idea was -- was ever going to happen.

11 So -- so, you know, in terms of premeditation there
12 for -- for what happened that -- that -- there just -- that
13 was not there. Their intention had been to grab the lady's
14 purse and go get some money.

15 Q Or grab the money was what their intention was.

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q And that's what he indicated to you?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q In talking to him -- I noticed you interviewed him,
20 and I have a copy of your report.

21 Did you initially interview him on site
22 November 7th of 2023? Does that sound correct?

23 A That sounds about right, yes, sir.

24 Q And you had a zoom meeting. When did you have a zoom
25 meeting?

George Martin
Cross-examination by Mr. Barnette

1 A Say that again.

2 Q When did you have the zoom meeting with him, or the
3 other meeting?

4 A Just in the last few days.

5 Q Do you know when, what day?

6 A No, I don't.

7 Q I -- I noticed you did your report January 15th
8 according to --

9 A Well, it was -- it's been in the last week or ten
10 days.

11 Q Okay. Was it -- was it before this report was done or
12 after the report was done?

13 A After.

14 Q After. Okay. So it was after January 15th.

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q And during that time you -- so on November 7th he knew
17 that you were going to do a report and you were going to be
18 test -- or working with the defense on this at that point.

19 A Right.

20 Q Okay. And you realize he picked up a drug offense
21 just last month.

22 A Yeah. And -- and we talked about that.

23 Q Okay. So I know in your report you mentioned that --
24 I believe it's on page -- if I need to show you, please let
25 me know.

George Martin
Cross-examination by Mr. Barnette

1 A Say it again. I'm sorry.

2 Q On the report on page eight. Do you need to look at
3 it from that standpoint?

4 A Well, if you just want to --

5 Q I can read it to you.

6 A Just tell me. Tell me what I said.

7 Q On page eight of the report, "It should be known that
8 Mr. Bonner's later years in prison should have been free of
9 other serious rule violations." I know you've seen his
10 record we just brought up in court.

11 A Yeah.

12 Q He's had three major violations, I think, since August
13 of last year.

14 A Yes, sir. But -- but, like I said a little earlier,
15 to describe at least two of those as -- as major violations
16 is, at least in my mind, stretching the outer limits of --
17 of -- of major.

18 You know, he -- he in the course of -- of beginning a
19 visit with Ms. Blanding, he apparently touched her
20 inappropriately and -- and as a result got charged with
21 what -- what is regarded as a major offense.

22 The most recent drug charge, as I understand it, he --
23 he refused to -- to submit to a urine test that he said he
24 refused it because it was in the middle of the night and he
25 was -- he had -- he was ill and didn't feel like going all

George Martin
Cross-examination by Mr. Barnette

1 the way up to the front office to -- to submit to the
2 urinalysis and -- and got stupid and refused to -- to go
3 with them in spite of his illness. So, you know, and
4 that's -- that's his story. My guess would be there's
5 probably some element of truth in it.

6 Q So, obviously, that is a major offense if you're not
7 going to comply with an order for -- and urine tests are
8 normal in the department of corrections obviously.

9 A Well, he didn't get -- I guess the point was he --
10 sure. Refusal to -- to submit to a lawful order is a -- is
11 a serious rules violation. Just it's essentially the same
12 as a -- an implied consent alcohol test when you're stopped
13 by the highway patrol. He -- he violated essentially the
14 same thing.

15 Q And I know we was talking about the cell phone
16 violations. They do have wall phones at the department of
17 corrections, don't they, or have phones available to them?

18 A Yeah. I -- I understand they -- they do. But they
19 have ipads that are assigned and -- and they're programmed
20 to only -- only access preapproved numbers but -- but
21 it's -- it's way expensive because using that system are --
22 are very expensive.

23 Q Do you know the cost?

24 A No. I'm -- I'm characterizing what I have been told.

25 Q I'm kinda learning something too. So they can use

1 ipads to call now?

2 A Not in all the institutions, I don't think. But
3 that's fairly common. I -- I saw that in a number of -- of
4 detention facilities where I'd visited in some of my
5 earlier work.

6 Q Does Kershaw have that available to them, the ipads?
7 Or I don't know if you know or not.

8 A I just don't know.

9 Q But they are commonly throughout the department of
10 corrections then?

11 A Yeah. They're getting that way, yeah.

12 Q Okay. Now, are they provided to the inmates, or do
13 they have to pay for it, or do you know?

14 A I really -- I really don't know. I don't think
15 they're charged for them but -- but then inmates whose
16 families can afford them, they can be paid for and
17 programmed for more than just telephone calls.

18 Q One other thing I wanted to ask you.

19 On the -- on page ten in your report, although there's
20 no rational excuse for Mr. Bonner's involvement, there's no
21 precedent that this review is aware for the reason for
22 the -- allowing sentence. There was no loss of life or
23 serious injury. I know you've heard -- have you seen the
24 evidence in this case?

25 A I -- I have since I -- since I wrote that.

George Martin
Redirect examination by Ms. Vann

1 Q Would you -- would you agree with me that the victim
2 in this case did receive a serious injury?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q And, obviously, that heightens the crime that occurred
5 in this case.

6 A Well, it -- of course it did. But life without parole
7 seems in my judgment to be little disproportionate to the
8 offense.

9 Q You understand that's not -- we're just here. This is
10 a resentencing based off what happens here today. Whatever
11 happened in the past doesn't have anything to do with this.

12 A Yeah. I understand.

13 MR. BARNETTE: One moment, Your Honor, please.

14 (Pause.)

15 Q Thank you, sir. Thank you for answering my questions.

16 A Okay. Thank you.

17 MS. VANN: Just a minute. I have a couple of more
18 questions.

19 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

20 BY MS. VANN

21 Q I promise to be quick. We talked, or with Solicitor
22 Barnette you talked a little bit about the use of a cell
23 phone, and he asked if there are wall phones that the
24 inmates can use, or tablets, to make phone calls.

25 A Well, there are. There are the tablets. Whether or

George Martin
Recross-examination by Mr. Barnette

1 not they still have pay phones on the wall like I remember,
2 I'm not sure.

3 Q Do you know if Mr. Bonner has lost his phone
4 privileges, or privileges to use those mechanisms, over the
5 years?

6 A He has, he has. That's been at least a part of the
7 sanctions against him for possession of the phones.

8 Q And there was some discussion over whether these were
9 major violations. I know in your report you said you felt
10 he had no serious violations, which is a slightly different
11 term than the department uses. What is -- what is it that
12 makes you say that he doesn't have serious violations
13 resulting?

14 A Well, there was -- there was no assaultive behavior
15 in -- in -- at least in recent years.

16 The possession of -- of -- of narcotics is but it --
17 but he's not in -- not been involved in any assaultive
18 behavior that -- that I recall seeing.

19 He's never affiliated with a gang and -- and in that
20 environment that's not easy to do.

21 He's never been caught with a -- with a -- a serious
22 weapon, a shank or whatever you'd call it.

23 And I remember an old -- an old inmate many years ago
24 once told me. He said it's better to get caught one, with
25 one, than without one. And -- and that's the -- that's --

George Martin
Recross-examination by Mr. Barnette

1 that's the kind of environment that Mr. Bonner has been in.

2 Q And in your opinion he would be capable of adjusting
3 to the community?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q I have no further questions. Thank you.

6 MR. BARNETTE: Just a couple on redirect, Your Honor,
7 real quickly. Thank you.

8 RECROSS-EXAMINATION

9 BY MR. BARNETTE

10 Q Going back to his -- where he couldn't be able to use
11 a phone because of his violations, is that right?

12 A Is what? I'm sorry.

13 Q well, he couldn't use a -- use a phone, I guess, in
14 the facility because of the violations he had. That's part
15 of the --

16 A Yeah. Right.

17 Q -- penalty for that? He's had numerous where he lost
18 his telephone privileges on this sheet, is that right, sir?

19 A That's right, yeah.

20 Q And you were saying that he couldn't moved up to
21 higher -- I know there was -- there's competition for those
22 jobs. But, obviously, his record of 51 events did not help
23 him move up to get better jobs, did it?

24 A Not at all, no.

25 Q Yeah.

1 A I -- if I said anything that sounded like I was trying
2 to portray him as a -- as a model inmate, you didn't hear
3 me right because he -- he has not been. That's true.

4 Q So, obviously, I had no -- he controls that,
5 obviously, the violations.

6 A Yeah. Sure.

7 Q And, obviously, if he'd not had the violations, he
8 could have moved up into a better position.

9 A If he -- if he -- if he'd gotten some skills and --
10 and meaningful jobs along the way, that would have helped
11 him too.

12 Q Thank you, sir.

13 MS. VANN: Nothing further, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Thank you. You may step down.

15 MS. VANN: Court's indulgence. I will just ask my
16 client a question real quick.

17 (Pause.)

18 MS. VANN: We have no further witnesses, but
19 Mr. Bonner would like to make a statement at the
20 appropriate time.

21 THE COURT: Now is the time.

22 MR. BARNETTE: Your Honor, I just want to make sure.
23 I won't be able to ask him any cross-examination questions
24 under the circumstances?

25 THE COURT: No, sir.

1 MR. BARNETTE: Okay. I just wanted to make sure.
2 Thank you, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: This is just like -- just like at a
4 sentencing when the defendant gets to have an allocution.

5 MR. BARNETTE: I understand. I was just -- I know in
6 most Aiken vs. Byars cases I've usually had a chance to
7 question when they do present, he presents, any kind of
8 statement or whatever, had that opportunity.

9 THE COURT: I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll hear
10 from Mr. Bonner. And if -- and if I become of the opinion
11 that he's presenting information that needs to be
12 challenged, then I'll allow him to take the witness stand
13 and testify if he wants to. So he'll be subject to your
14 examination.

15 MR. BARNETTE: Thank you, Your Honor.

16 THE DEFENDANT: Well, I know -- I know previously when
17 I was at trial, you know, I -- I got on the stand and
18 admitted that I had entirely nothing to do with this crime,
19 because I was scared, and I was in their care and I was
20 scared just like the rest of my other codefendants who made
21 false statements as well.

22 But I'm tremendously sorry about what happened to the
23 victim, that she have to endure that and remember that for
24 the rest of her life. I'm really sorry about that.

25 And I was a little kid trying to fit in, making bad

1 decisions, and it led me here. And being here in this
2 position, I've learned, figured myself out. I learned
3 myself. I found God. And I've just outgrown all of this.

4 And the punishment that I've been given, I learned
5 from it. I dealt with it. I accepted all responsibility.
6 But, most of all, I just wanted to apologize and say I was
7 sorry for what happened to the victim and for lying about
8 not having no parts of this crime at all in the beginning
9 when I actually did.

10 Everybody that testified in this hearing today is
11 right -- everybody. And none of this would have happened
12 if it wasn't for me, if I wouldn't came up with the plan
13 that I did to do any of this.

14 But, as was testified by my codefendants at the trial,
15 it wasn't my plan to harm anybody or to cause any kind of
16 physical harm on the victim.

17 It's just -- it just went left and it happened the way
18 it happened. But I didn't mean, intended or wanted any of
19 that to happen to her at all. And I just wanted to
20 apologize for what happened. That's really it.

21 THE COURT: Let me ask you one thing.

22 Have you reviewed the record of the transcript of the
23 trial with your lawyers?

24 THE DEFENDANT: I don't have to. I mean, I really
25 don't have to. I was here.

Closing arguments

1 THE COURT: Okay. And you heard. You heard the
2 victim testify at the trial.

3 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT: And did she state it accurately and
5 correctly as to what occurred in this event?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Did she state?

7 THE COURT: Yeah. Did the victim testify truthfully
8 and accurately when she testified about the event in
9 question that resulted in your conviction and she testified
10 as to what you did? Did she state it correctly?

11 THE DEFENDANT: To what I did?

12 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

13 THE DEFENDANT: I don't recall her testifying about
14 what I did. I recall her testifying about what happened to
15 her from -- from all of us as a whole.

16 THE COURT: That's what I'm asking. Did she testify
17 truthfully and accurately about the event?

18 THE DEFENDANT: Oh, yes, sir.

19 THE COURT: About what happened to her and about the
20 individuals involved --

21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

22 THE COURT: -- and what happened to her?

23 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir. She did absolutely.

24 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Anything else you'd
25 like to say?

Closing arguments

1 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir. That's it.

2 THE COURT: Okay. Do y'all have argument or a
3 statement you want to make?

4 MS. VANN: Yes, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: All right. Let's do this. I'm going to
6 take a short break, and we'll come back and do that. Let's
7 take -- how much time are you going to need?

8 MS. VANN: Maybe 15 minutes.

9 MR. BARNETTE: I'll respond, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: All right. Let's -- let's take 15 minutes
11 right now, and then we'll return.

12 MR. BARNETTE: Thank you, Your Honor.

13 (Whereupon, a recess was taken.)

14 THE COURT: All right. You may proceed.

15 MS. VANN: Thank you, Your Honor.

16 I just want -- we filed a memorandum on the sentencing
17 procedure, and that was what I handed up to you at the
18 beginning.

19 It sounds like we all agree that the resentencing
20 hearing is de novo, and I know we discussed that before.

21 Our argument would be that all of the sentences are
22 here for the judge's consideration, especially in light of
23 Jones vs. State that directs circuit court judges to apply
24 the Aiken vs. Byars factors in all sentencings. And I know
25 that Mr. Bonner's previous sentencing hearings have had the

Closing arguments

1 opportunity to consider those Aiken vs. Byars factors.

2 At the very least this case is before the Court on two
3 sentences, the burglary first, which previously was a
4 60-year sentence, and the consecutive ten-year sentence for
5 the ABHAN.

6 It is our position that Graham requires that any
7 sentence imposed and the total of those sentences has to be
8 less than the life expectancy of the juvenile in order to
9 give meaning to the prescription that juveniles charged
10 with non-homicide offenses must be given a meaningful
11 opportunity of release.

12 With our memorandum we submitted an affidavit of Vera
13 Dolan who did an actuarial study of people who are
14 incarcerated in the department of corrections, and her
15 study indicated that a person who enters the department of
16 corrections at 17 years old has an additional life
17 expectancy of only 32 more years.

18 So it's our position that any sentence that could give
19 him a meaningful opportunity of release needs to be lowered
20 than the life expectancy of 32 years.

21 And, as I said, all the Aiken vs. Byars factors need
22 to be considered, and you've heard testimony here today on
23 those factors.

24 The first factor is the chronological age of the
25 offender and the hallmark features of youth including

Closing arguments

1 immaturity, impetuosity and failure to appreciate risks and
2 consequences.

3 As we know, John Bonner was 17 years old at the time
4 of the offense. You've heard testimony today from Eva
5 Bonner, his mother, and from Latrice who both knew him as a
6 good kid who was in a very difficult situation at the time
7 of this offense.

8 And I would suggest that the Court also should take
9 into consideration what we have learned about juvenile
10 brain development. And the Supreme Court has used that in
11 all of their sentencing decisions in the realm of juvenile
12 sentencing recognizing that juvenile brains are not fully
13 developed as teenagers and that is why there are different
14 sentencing considerations for juveniles.

15 The second factor is the family and home environment
16 that surrounded the offender. You've heard testimony today
17 about the difficult situation and the environment that John
18 was in at the time of this offense.

19 He had a sick brother who had cancer who is at home
20 and was taking up all of his mother's time to address and
21 deal with the sickness of his brother. He had cancer.

22 You also heard that his mother was disabled at the
23 time. She was unable to work. This limited the family's
24 finances. John's father was in prison. And so there
25 really wasn't, you know, sufficient money to go around to

Closing arguments

1 care for all of the family.

2 As a result they had to move from a relatively quiet
3 and stable neighborhood, and they had to move to the west
4 End.

5 And there's been testimony today that that was really
6 the bad side of town, that there were drug dealers there,
7 that John for the first time saw people making money
8 selling drugs on the streets. And that certainly
9 influenced him, especially as a 17-year-old who's in that
10 situation for the first time.

11 The third consideration is the circumstances of the
12 offense, including the extent of the offender's
13 participation and the conduct and how familial and peer
14 pressures may have affected him.

15 You heard John today. He accepts responsibility for
16 what he did and for his involvement in this. But I would
17 point out that this was a situation involving eight
18 codefendants, and John was the youngest of all of those
19 codefendants. The oldest, Joshua Manning, was 21, and John
20 was only 17 at the time.

21 The studies of juveniles show that juveniles are very
22 susceptible to peer pressure, especially the peer pressure
23 of older individuals.

24 I know you also have the sentencing -- I'm sorry --
25 the original trial transcript. And there is testimony that

Closing arguments

1 the original plan had been to grab the money and run.

2 From the sounds of it, and the things got out of hand
3 is the kind of this group of teenagers and then this one
4 older codefendant. Things got out of hand, and it was very
5 difficult for John to get out of that at that point.

6 The fourth factor is the incompetency associated with
7 youth. For example, the offender's inability to deal with
8 police or prosecutors or the incapacity to assist his own
9 attorneys.

10 I would suggest that the incompetencies of youth are
11 evident in this case in a couple of circumstances.

12 You've heard about how John went to North Carolina
13 after this crime. I would suggest that that is the
14 17-year-old brain not knowing how to deal with the
15 consequences of his actions.

16 He was still a teenager at the time of his original
17 trial, and, obviously, you've heard today that he made the
18 poor decision of denying his responsibility for this
19 offense at that time. But now here he is as a 32-year-old
20 man -- 33-year-old man -- I'm sorry -- who now fully
21 accepts his responsibility and his culpability for this
22 offense.

23 And then, finally, I think you've heard the most
24 testimony about the possibility of rehabilitation. So
25 you've heard from Eva Bonner, his mother, who described how

Closing arguments

1 he has matured and how he supports her mentally and in
2 conversations with her, how he supports his children and
3 really helps them to stay on the right path and avoid the
4 same mistakes that he's made.

5 Latrice testified about their relationship and how he
6 helped her through difficult times and how they strengthen
7 each other's faith and that he has strengthened his faith
8 and really matured over the years that she has known him.

9 And you've heard from George Martin who is an expert
10 in inmate behavior in the prison systems. And while we all
11 acknowledge that he has not had a pristine clean prison
12 record, he has not had assaultive behaviors. He has
13 learned to make better decisions.

14 He has not engaged in kind of the criminal activity
15 that landed him in prison in the first place. And I think
16 you've heard consistently from every witness who testified
17 on his behalf that they believe he would be able to adjust
18 to the community and be successful and avoid being in
19 trouble again.

20 The final point I'd like to make is just one of
21 proportionality. This is a non-homicide offense, and John
22 was a juvenile at the time. And the Supreme Court is clear
23 that juveniles must be considered differently for
24 sentencing purposes.

25 And as a reminder, the codefendants in this case,

Closing arguments

1 Joshua Manning who is 21 at the time of the offense, he
2 received a 60-year sentence, but the other individuals have
3 received 15 years or 30 years or less.

4 And so I would suggest that all of that weighs in
5 favor of reducing John Bonner's sentence to give him a
6 meaningful opportunity of release. Thank you.

7 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Barnette.

8 MR. BARNETTE: May it please the Court, Your Honor.

9 I'm just going to focus on the Aiken factors. Also,
10 Your Honor, I do agree that's where this hearing is going
11 at. It's basically a hearing concerning that.

12 The three things I'd like to look at on those factors
13 is the No. 3, the circumstances involving the crime or
14 offense; four, the ability to deal with police officers,
15 prosecutors or his own defense attorney; and, five,
16 possibility of rehabilitation.

17 Obviously, we know the crime. I know Your Honor was
18 here. Mr. Martin was here. I was here when that occurred.

19 Through the testimony and everything, we saw what the
20 victim went through and is still going through, obviously,
21 according to the testimony that was provided today from
22 there.

23 But what was interesting was Mr. Bonner did a pretty
24 sophisticated alibi defense. And if you go through, and I
25 know you've got the transcript in front of Your Honor and

Closing arguments

1 will have it in front of you, but starting with his
2 testimony, going through there with Mr. Schultz, and
3 basically on 255, you know, he says, the codefendant says,
4 they're all lies. Right. Most definitely. And then goes
5 through there and talks about his crime.

6 But then he said on page 256, line 12.

7 "Q What did the detective say to you?

8 "A They asked me where I was that
9 morning.

10 And of course I object at this point, hearsay, and the
11 Court overruled it. Then says you may answer the question.

12 "A Yeah. They wanted me to say where I
13 was earlier that morning.

14 "Q Did you tell them the same thing
15 you're telling me here today?

16 "A Yes, sir. I told them I was at home,
17 I didn't know anything about the crime.
18 And he consistently says that through his testimony.
19 And then on page 257, question.

20 "Q But you never changed your story.

21 "A No, sir. I didn't in this case.

22 And he, obviously, produced two other witnesses,
23 Ms. Lipscomb who also testified today, that testified, and
24 Kevin Bonner that testified on his behalf for the motive or
25 for the alibi defense in this case.

Closing arguments

1 So, obviously, he had talked to his attorney trying to
2 flam through that. And we were given notice of that
3 because I had to give notice back in reply to it. And that
4 was in the paperwork that's done.

5 And then if you get to the end of it, you asked him on
6 page 278, No. 17.

7 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Schultz,
8 you had two witnesses transported from the
9 Department of Corrections that you'd
10 indicated that you might wish to call and
11 testify on behalf of Mr. Bonner. Have you
12 had a chance to talk to Mr. Manning and
13 Mr. Agnew," which was two defendants.

14 And Mr. Schultz said.

15 MR. SCHULTZ: I have, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Have you made a decision
17 about whether or not you want to call
18 those witnesses?

19 He says.

20 MR. SCHULTZ: I have, Your Honor.

21 And you asked.

22 THE COURT: What is it?

23 MR. SCHULTZ: We do not plan to call
24 these witnesses in our case in chief.

25 And he asked.

Closing arguments

1 THE COURT: Have you discussed this
2 with Mr. Bonner?
3 MR. SCHULTZ: I have, Your Honor.
4 THE COURT: And is he in agreement
5 with that decision?
6 MR. SCHULTZ: He is.
7 Then you asked Mr. Bonner. This is on page 279, line
8 ten.
9 THE COURT: Is that true, Mr. Bonner?
10 And he said.
11 THE DEFENDANT: Sir?
12 THE COURT: Is that true, in
13 agreement with this decision?
14 Is what Mr. Bonner says. And you said.
15 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
16 And the defendant said.
17 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.
18 And then you asked.
19 THE COURT: Do you want to call
20 Mr. Manning and Mr. Agnew?
21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.
22 THE COURT: Okay.
23 And then Mr. Schultz says.
24 MR. SCHULTZ: Okay.
25 THE COURT: You perceive that as

Closing arguments

1 being a good idea, Mr. Schultz? Do you
2 need to talk to Mr. Bonner about that?

3 MR. SCHULTZ: Your Honor, just for
4 the record, I do not think it's a good
5 idea.

6 THE COURT: Are you going to be able
7 to help Mr. Bonner in any way?

8 Mr. Schultz says.

9 MR. SCHULTZ: No.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Bonner do you
11 understand Mr. Schultz has talked to them
12 and he says they're not going to help you?
13 Are you trying to work against your lawyer
14 or are you trying -- or who is trying to
15 help you, or are you trying to help your
16 lawyer.

17 THE DEFENDANT: I ain't trying to.
18 Said the defendant.

19 THE COURT: But you talked to Mr.
20 Manning and Mr. Agnew?

21 The defendant said.

22 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir. I ain't.

23 THE COURT: Do you know what they're
24 going to say?

25 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

Closing arguments

1 THE COURT: well, did Mr. Schultz
2 tell you what they're going to say?

3 THE DEFENDANT: He didn't tell me
4 what they're going to say.

5 THE COURT: Maybe y'all need to
6 discuss it.

7 MR. BARNETTE: So he was actively involved with his
8 defense talking to his defense attorney, making sure that
9 he knew exactly wanted to do.

10 Later on they did not call them as witnesses as you
11 went through, and I can keep going through the colloquy.
12 But my point is here he, obviously, understood the system.
13 He understood certain aspects of it, and that's part of it
14 going to this.

15 I mean, he put up an alibi defense. If the jury would
16 have believed that alibi defense, he would have walked
17 free. And, obviously, the jury based off the evidence as
18 produced, and part of the evidence is -- and I'm not going
19 to go through every part of the transcript -- was that
20 hit -- they actually met at his house, Roro's house, which
21 is his nickname.

22 And then, basically, he had watched her carry the
23 money back and forth from that standpoint, was the
24 codefendant's testimony. Wasn't, obviously, his testimony.
25 But that was the codefendant's testimony in this case.

Closing arguments

1 To me, I think that you look at the, basically the,
2 circumstances of the crime and defense. I know you have
3 that. It's in the transcript and through the Court's
4 exhibits.

5 Basically, he had the ability to deal with his defense
6 attorney. He was directing him what he wanted to do. And
7 of course the defense attorney had to go back and talk to
8 these two individuals to make sure what they was going to
9 say and what he wanted to do.

10 Then the fifth thing, the possibility of
11 rehabilitation.

12 If you look at State's Exhibit No. 3, Your Honor, he
13 basically -- I don't know if you need a copy of that, Your
14 Honor. I think it's down here.

15 May I approach, Your Honor?

16 THE COURT: Yes.

17 MR. BARNETTE: In that article he has major
18 violations. The last three would be classified as major
19 violations in the department of corrections.

20 In this case their expert, Mr. Martin, actually talked
21 to him on November 7th of 2023. He knows this hearing's
22 coming up.

23 They asked him to take a drug test, was the last
24 violation. He refused according through Mr. Martin's
25 testimony, that he did not want to take a test, that he was

Closing arguments

1 sick. But he refused that command.

2 And he also testified he wasn't a model inmate. And,
3 obviously, he got 51 violations from that standpoint.
4 You've got the, you know, where he's used cell phones.
5 He's done different things from that standpoint.

6 He had access to other things. If he would have
7 followed the rules and everything, got meaningful jobs and
8 everything, he could have moved up in the job market from
9 that standpoint, which he did not.

10 And you can see from his record, I think it goes to
11 his ability to be rehabilitated.

12 I think that's something the Court should take into
13 effect. I know it will when it looks through all five of
14 these factors. But I think especially three, four and five
15 is pertinent to the state. We'd ask you to consider those
16 factors, as well as all of the evidence that's been
17 presented here today. Thank you, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: All right. Ms. Vann.

19 MS. VANN: Just briefly starting where we left off,
20 the possibility of rehabilitation and John's prison record.

21 I think one of the things that is important to
22 remember is Mr. Martin's testimony that he was a teenager
23 when he entered a very difficult, very high security, very
24 violent prison system.

25 And so his behavior, while not perfect, he didn't join

1 a gang. He wasn't in assaultive behavior. He hasn't had
2 any violence on staff or other inmates. And I think that
3 warrants consideration.

4 And then I would just highlight, again, everybody
5 consistently said they feel that John has matured over the
6 past 15 years of incarceration. He's now a 33-year-old man
7 who is not the same 17-year-old that he was when he was
8 before the Court the first time. Thank you.

9 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. I'll -- sir?

10 MR. BARNETTE: Can I mention one thing, Your Honor?

11 The State vs. Slocumb. I know you'll take that into
12 consideration where it basically says they didn't expand
13 the range from that standpoint, the imposition of an elder
14 sentence for multiple offenses amounted to the fact of a
15 life sentence on non-homicide offender. They declined to
16 do that.

17 I know Slocumb is a different factor. I know Ms. Vann
18 was in on that case, but, obviously, that's a holding that
19 was in that case.

20 I just wanted to make sure it's the Court's attention,
21 which I'm sure it is.

22 THE COURT: I'll read it. I have Ms. Vann's
23 memorandum. I'll read that. I have the trial record,
24 which I will review.

25 And in the event we need to reconvene, I'll notify

1 you.

2 MS. VANN: Thank you, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

4 MR. BARNETTE: Thank you, Your Honor.

5 END OF REQUESTED TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD

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CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned Linda D. Moffitt, Official Court Reporter for the Seventh Judicial Circuit of the State of South Carolina, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, accurate and complete Transcript of Record of all the proceedings had and evidence introduced in the trial of the captioned cause, relative to appeal, in the Court of General Sessions for Cherokee County, South Carolina, on the 9th day of February 2024.

I do further certify that I am neither of kin, counsel nor interest to any party hereto.

November 9, 2024

s/Linda D. Moffitt

Linda D. Moffitt
Circuit Court Reporter

ARREST WARRANT

I-068018

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

THE STATE

against

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

Address: 203 VILLA DR

GAFFNEY SC 29340

Phone: 864-000-0000 SSN: 249852429

Sex: M Race: B Height: 504 Weight: 145

DL State: SC DL#: 0101462347

DOB: 01/24/1991 Agency ORI #: SC0110200

Prosecuting Agency: POLICE

Prosecuting Officer: RONALD A RAMSEY

Offense: BURGLARY 1ST - GENERAL

Offense Code:

Code/Ordinance Sec: GENERAL SESSIONS

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the

☒ County/ ☒ Municipality of
CHEROKEE / GAFFNEYThe Accused
is to be arrested and brought before me to be
dealt with according to law.

Signature of Judge

(L.S.)

Date: 4-14-08

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to
defendant John Bonner

on 4-14-08

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

USHA BRIDGES

201 N. LIMESTONE ST.

GAFFNEY SC 29340

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me the affiant RONALD A RAMSEY

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

did within this county and state on 04/02/2008

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of GAFFNEY

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:

BURGLARY 1ST - GENERAL SESSIONS

I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit
the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

ON OR ABOUT APRIL 2, 2008, THE DEFENDANT, JOHN BENDARIAN BONNER, DID COMMIT THE CRIME OF BURGLARY IN
THE FIRST DEGREE BY ENTERING INTO THE DWELLING OF DIPALI DARJI LOCATED AT 721 PROVIDENCE ROAD
DURING THE HOURS OF DARKNESS AND WITH THE INTENT TO COMMIT A CRIME THEREIN. THIS INCIDENT
OCCURRED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF GAFFNEY, SC COUNTY OF CHEROKEE. PROBABLE CAUSE BASED UPON THE
INVESTIGATION BY THE GAFFNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT DETECTIVE DIVISION AND THE STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT
DIVISION.

CASE NO: 08-003478

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

Affiant's Address 201 N. LIMESTONE ST.

Affiant's Telephone 864-487-8524

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that
on 04/02/2008 defendant BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of GAFFNEY) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:

BURGLARY 1ST - GENERAL SESSIONS

Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said
defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to
the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

Sworn to and subscribed before me

on 4-14-08

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.)

Judge Code: UB

Judge's Address 201 N. LIMESTONE ST.

GAFFNEY SC 29340

Judge's Telephone 864-487-8524

Issuing Court: ☐ Magistrate ☒ Municipal ☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

BAIL set by

Judge Johnson
on 6-1-09

Type and Amount: _____

Name of Surety: _____

PRELIMINARY HEARING held by

Judge _____

on _____

Defense Attorney: _____

Decision: _____

DISPOSITION before

Judge _____

on _____

by _____

(indicate jury trial, bench trial, plea, nol. pros., etc.)

Disposition: _____

Sentence: _____

JURORS

WITNESSES

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

CODEFENDANTS

ARREST WARRANT

I-068038

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

THE STATE

against

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

Address: 203 VILLA DR

GAFFNEY SC 29340

Phone: 864-000-0000 SSN: 249852429

Sex: M Race: B Height: 504 Weight: 145

DL State: SC DL#: 0101462347

DOB: 01/24/1991 Agency ORI #: SC0110200

Prosecuting Agency: POLICE

Prosecuting Officer: RONALD A RAMSEY

Offense: GRAND LARCENY

Offense Code:

Code/Ordinance Sec:

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

CHEROKEE

The Accused is to be arrested and brought before me to be dealt with according to law.

(L.S.)

Signature of Judge

Date:

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to defendant John Bonner

on

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

WADE S. WEATHERFORD III

201 N. LIMESTONE ST.

GAFFNEY SC 29340

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me the affiant RONALD A RAMSEY

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

did within this county and state on 04/02/2008

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of GAFFNEY violate the criminal laws of the

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:

GRAND LARCENY

I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

ON OR ABOUT APRIL 2, 2008, THE DEFENDANT, JOHN BENDARIAN BONNER, DID COMMIT THE CRIME OF GRAND LARCENY OVER \$5,000.00 BY TAKING CASH FROM THE CORNER STOP #2 LOCATED AT 717 PROVIDENCE ROAD WITHOUT THE OWNERS PERMISSION OR CONSENT. THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF GAFFNEY, SC COUNTY OF CHEROKEE. PROBABLE CAUSE BASED UPON THE INVESTIGATION BY THE GAFFNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT DETECTIVE DIVISION AND THE STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION.

CASE NO: 08-003478

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

GAFFNEY

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that defendant BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

on 04/02/2008 did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of GAFFNEY) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:

GRAND LARCENY

Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

Sworn to and subscribed before me

on 4/13/08

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.)

Judge Code: WSW

Judge's Address 201 N. LIMESTONE ST.

GAFFNEY SC 29340

Judge's Telephone 864-487-8524

Issuing Court: ☐ Magistrate ☒ Municipal ☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

Judge Adler
on 6-1-09
Type and Amount: Demol
Name of Surety: _____

Judge _____

on _____

Defense Attorney: _____

Decision: _____

Judge _____

on _____

by _____

(Indicate jury trial, bench trial, plea, nol. pros., etc.)

(Indicate jury trial, bench trial, plea, nol. pros., etc.)

Disposition: _____

Sentence: _____

Name: _____	Address: _____
Telephone: _____	
Name: _____	Address: _____
Telephone: _____	
Name: _____	Address: _____
Telephone: _____	
Name: _____	Address: _____
Telephone: _____	
Name: _____	Address: _____
Telephone: _____	
Name: _____	Address: _____
Telephone: _____	
Name: _____	Address: _____
Telephone: _____	
Name: _____	Address: _____
Telephone: _____	
Name: _____	Address: _____
Telephone: _____	
CODEFENDANTS	

CODEFENDANTS

ARREST WARRANT

I-068037

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of

GAFFNEY

THE STATE

against

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

Address: 203 VILLA DR

GAFFNEY SC 29340

Phone: 864-000-0000 SSN: 249852429

Sex: M Race: B Height: 504 Weight: 145

DL State: SC DL#: 0101462347

DOB: 01/24/1991 Agency ORI #: SC0110200

Prosecuting Agency: POLICE

Prosecuting Officer: RONALD A RAMSEY

Offense: BURGLARY 2ND - GENERAL

Offense Code:

Code/Ordinance Sec: GENERAL SESSIONS

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

CHEROKEE

The Accused

is to be arrested and brought before me to be dealt with according to law.

(L.S.)

Signature of Judge

Date:

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to defendant John Bonner

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

WADE S. WEATHERFORD III

201 N. LIMESTONE ST.

GAFFNEY SC 29340

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of

GAFFNEY

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me the affiant RONALD A RAMSEYbeing duly sworn deposes and says that defendant BONNER, JOHN BENDARIANdid within this county and state on 04/02/2008

violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of GAFFNEY)

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:

BURGLARY 2ND - GENERAL SESSIONS

I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

ON OR ABOUT APRIL 2, 2008, THE DEFENDANT, JOHN BENDARIAN BONNER, DID COMMIT THE CRIME OF BURGLARY IN THE SECOND DEGREE BY ENTERING INTO THE CORNER STOP #2 LOCATED AT 717 PROVIDENCE ROAD DURING THE HOURS OF DARKNESS, WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE OWNER AND WITH THE INTENT TO COMMIT A CRIME THEREIN. THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF GAFFNEY, SC COUNTY OF CHEROKEE. PROBABLE CAUSE BASED UPON THE INVESTIGATION BY THE GAFFNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT DETECTIVE DIVISION AND THE STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION.

CASE NO: 08-003478

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of

GAFFNEY

Affiant's Address 201 N. LIMESTONE ST.

GAFFNEY SC 29340

Affiant's Telephone 864-487-8524

GAFFNEY

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that defendant BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of GAFFNEY) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:

BURGLARY 2ND - GENERAL SESSIONS

Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

Sworn to and subscribed before me

on 4/1/08Judge's Address 201 N. LIMESTONE ST.

GAFFNEY SC 29340

Signature of Issuing Judge

Judge's Telephone 864-487-8524

Judge Code: WSW

Issuing Court:

☐ Magistrate☒ Municipal☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

BAIL set by

Judge Allison
on 6-1-09
Type and Amount: Denied
Name of Surety: _____

PRELIMINARY HEARING held by

Judge _____
on _____
Defense Attorney: _____
Decision: _____

DISPOSITION before

Judge _____
on _____
by _____
(Indicate jury trial, bench trial, plea, nol. pros., etc.)

Disposition: _____
Sentence: _____

JURORS

WITNESSES

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____

Name: _____
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Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____

CODEFENDANTS

ARREST WARRANT

I-068044

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

THE STATE

against

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

Address: 203 VILLA DR

GAFFNEY SC 29340

Phone: 864-000-0000 SSN: 249852429

Sex: M Race: B Height: 504 Weight: 145

DL State: SC DL#: 0101462347

DOB: 01/24/1991 Agency ORI #: SC0110200

Prosecuting Agency: POLICE

Prosecuting Officer: RONALD A RAMSEY

Offense: KIDNAPPING - 16-3-910

Offense Code:

Code/Ordinance Sec. 16-3-910

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

CHEROKEE

The Accused is to be arrested and brought before me to be dealt with according to law.

(L.S.)

Signature of Judge

Date:

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to defendant John Bonner

on

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

KAYE ALLISON

201 N. LIMESTONE ST.

GAFFNEY SC 29340

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me the affiant RONALD A RAMSEY

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

did within this county and state on 04/02/2008

violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of

GAFFNEY

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:

KIDNAPPING - 16-3-910

I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

ON 04/02/2008, THE DEFENDANT, JOHN BENDARIAN BONNER, DID UNLAWFULLY SEIZE AND CONFINE DIPALI DARJI BY POINTING A HANDGUN AT THE VICTIM AND HOLDING HER AGAINST HER WILL. THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED AT 721 PROVIDENCE ROAD WHICH IS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF GAFFNEY, SC COUNTY OF CHEROKEE. PROBABLE CAUSE BASED UPON THE INVESTIGATION OF THE GAFFNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT DETECTIVE DIVISION.

CASE NO.: 08-003478

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

Affiant's Address 201 N. LIMESTONE ST.

GAFFNEY SC 29340

Affiant's Telephone 864-487-8524

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that defendant BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

on 04/02/2008 did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of GAFFNEY) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:

KIDNAPPING - 16-3-910

Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

Sworn to and subscribed before me

on April 17, 2008

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.)

Judge Code: KS

Judge's Address 201 N. LIMESTONE ST.

GAFFNEY SC 29340

Judge's Telephone 864-487-8524

Issuing Court:

☐ Magistrate

☒ Municipal

☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

BAIL set by

Judge Allison

on 6-1-09

Type and Amount: Denied

Name of Surety: _____

PRELIMINARY HEARING held by

Judge _____

on _____

Defense Attorney: _____

Decision: _____

DISPOSITION before

Judge _____

on _____

by _____

(Indicate jury trial, bench trial, plea, nol. pros., etc.)

Disposition: _____

Sentence: _____

JURORS

WITNESSES

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

CODEFENDANTS

ARREST WARRANT

I-068045

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

THE STATE

against

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

Address: 203 VILLA DR

GAFFNEY SC 29340

Phone: 864-000-0000 SSN: 249852429

Sex: M Race: B Height: 504 Weight: 145

DL State: SC DL#: 0101462347

DOB: 01/24/1991 Agency ORI #: SC0110200

Prosecuting Agency: POLICE

Prosecuting Officer: RONALD A RAMSEY

Offense: ARMED ROBBERY WHILE ARMED OR

Offense Code: _____

Code/Ordinance Sec: _____

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

CHEROKEE

The Accused is to be arrested and brought before me to be dealt with according to law.

Signature of Judge _____

(L.S.)

Date: _____

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to defendant John Bonner

on

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer Kaye Allison

RETURN WARRANT TO:

KAYE ALLISON

201 N. LIMESTONE ST.

GAFFNEY SC 29340

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me the affiant RONALD A RAMSEYbeing duly sworn deposes and says that defendant BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN whodid within this county and state on 04/02/2008 violate the criminal laws of theState of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of GAFFNEY)

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:

ARMED ROBBERY WHILE ARMED OR ALLEGEDLY ARMED WITH A DEADLY WEAPON

I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

ON OR ABOUT 4/2/2008, THE DEFENDANT, JOHN BENDARIAN BONNER, DID COMMIT A ROBBERY WHILE ARMED WITH A PISTOL AND A KNIFE, BOTH DEADLY WEAPONS AND DID TAKE CASH AND OTHER ITEMS FROM THE VICTIM. THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED AT 721 PROVIDENCE ROAD, WHICH IS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF GAFFNEY, SC, COUNTY OF CHEROKEE. PROBABLE CAUSE BASED UPON THE INVESTIGATION OF THE GAFFNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT DETECTIVE DIVISION.

CASE NUMBER: 08-003478

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

GAFFNEY

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that on 04/02/2008 defendant BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of GAFFNEY) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:
ARMED ROBBERY WHILE ARMED OR ALLEGEDLY ARMED WITH A DEADLY WEAPON

ARMED ROBBERY WHILE ARMED OR ALLEGEDLY ARMED WITH A DEADLY WEAPON

Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

Sworn to and subscribed before me

on April 17, 2008Signature of Issuing Judge Kaye Allison (L.S.)Judge Code: KSJudge's Address 201 N. LIMESTONE ST.GAFFNEY SC 29340Judge's Telephone 864-487-8524Issuing Court: ☐ Magistrate ☒ Municipal ☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

Judge Olson

on 6-1-09

Type and Amount: Denied

Name of Surety: _____

Judge _____

on

Defense Attorney:

Decision

Judge

no

by _____

(indicate jury trial, bench trial, plea, nol. pros., etc.)

Disposition:

Sentence:

WITNESSES

Name: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

Telephone:

Name: _____
Address: _____

Telephone _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____

CODEFENDANTS

ARREST WARRANT

I-068046

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

 THE STATE
against

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

Address: 203 VILLA DR

GAFFNEY SC 29340

Phone: 864-000-0000 SSN: 249852429

Sex: M Race: B Height: 504 Weight: 145

DL State: SC DL#: 0101462347

DOB: 01/24/1991 Agency ORI #: SC0110200

Prosecuting Agency: POLICE

Prosecuting Officer: RONALD A RAMSEY

Offense: ABHAN - C/L

Offense Code:

Code/Ordinance Sec: C/L

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of
CHEROKEE

The Accused is to be arrested and brought before me to be dealt with according to law.

Signature of Judge

(L.S.)

Date:

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to defendant John Bonner

on

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

KAYE ALLISON

201 N. LIMESTONE ST.

GAFFNEY SC 29340

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me the affiant RONALD A RAMSEY whobeing duly sworn deposes and says that defendant BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN violate the criminal laws of thedid within this county and state on 04/02/2008 State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of GAFFNEY)

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:

ABHAN - C/L

I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

ON 4/2/2008, THE DEFENDANT, (JOHN BENDARIAN BONNER, DID KNOWINGLY AND INTENTIONALLY COMMIT A BATTERY UPON, DIPALI DARJI, BY STRIKING HER REPEATEDLY ABOUT THE FACE AND BODY. THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED AT 721 PROVIDENCE ROAD, LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF GAFFNEY, SC, COUNTY OF CHEROKEE. THIS ACT BEING AGGRAVATED IN THAT, THE VICTIM WAS HOSPITALIZED FOR BRUISING ON HER BRAIN DUE TO THE SEVERITY OF THE BEATING. PROBABLE CAUSE BASED UPON THE INVESTIGATION OF THE GAFFNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT, DETECTIVE DIVISION.

CASE #: 08-003478

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of
GAFFNEY

GAFFNEY

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that on 04/02/2008 defendant BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of GAFFNEY) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:

ABHAN - C/L

Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

Sworn to and subscribed before me

on April 17, 2008Signature of Issuing Judge Kaye Allison (L.S.)

Judge Code: KS

Judge's Address 201 N. LIMESTONE ST.GAFFNEY SC 29340Judge's Telephone 864-487-8524Issuing Court: ☐ Magistrate ☒ Municipal ☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

BAIL set by

Judge Allison

on 6-1-09

Type and Amount Denied

Name of Surety: _____

PRELIMINARY HEARING held by

Judge _____

on _____

Defense Attorney: _____

Decision: _____

DISPOSITION before

Judge _____

on _____

by _____

(indicate jury trial, bench trial, plea, nol. pros., etc.)

Disposition: _____

Sentence: _____

JURORS

WITNESSES

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

CODEFENDANTS

WITNESSES

Gaffney Police Dept

[Signature]

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

1068018

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

TRUE BILL

Foreperson of Grand Jury

Date:

[Signature]
7-30-09

VERDICT

[Signature]

Foreperson of Petit Jury

Date: 8/13/09

DO
09-GS-11-0824

The State of South Carolina

County of Cherokee

Trey Gowdy, Solicitor

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

JUL 30 2009

TERM

THE STATE

vs.

John Bendarian Bonner

Indictment for

BURGLARY, FIRST DEGREE

(Dwelling)

SC Code: 16-11-0311

CDR Code: 0079

Class: FEL/EXM (V)

A TRUE COPY

CLERK OF COURT

CHEROKEE COUNTY, S.C.

[Signature]

RECEIVED

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
 COUNTY OF CHEROKEE)

INDICTMENT

FEB 1 2013

JUL 30 2009

SC OFFICE OF
APPELLATE DEFENSE

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on _____, the Grand Jurors of
 Cherokee County present upon their oath:

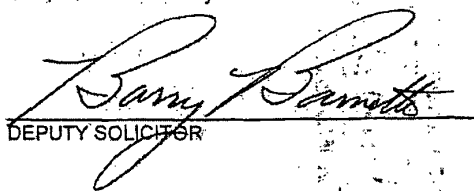
BURGLARY, FIRST DEGREE**(DWELLING)**

That the Defendant, John Bendarian Bonner, did in Cherokee County, on or about April 2, 2008, willfully and intentionally enter the dwelling belonging to Dipali Darji located at [REDACTED], Gaffney, South Carolina without consent and with the intent to commit a crime therein, and either:

- (1) when, in effecting entry or while in the dwelling or in immediate flight, he or another participant in the crime:
 - (a) was armed with a deadly weapon or explosive; or
 - (b) caused physical injury to any person who was not a participant in the crime; or
 - (c) used or threatened the use of a dangerous instrument; or
 - (d) displayed what was or appeared to be a knife, pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, machine gun, or other firearm; or
- (2) the burglary was committed by a person with a prior record of two or more convictions for burglary or housebreaking or a combination of both; or
- (3) the entering or remaining occurred in the nighttime,

in violation of §16-11-311, Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976) as amended.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.


 DEPUTY SOLICITOR

7/24

03-07-2013

14:53:10

WITNESSES

[Signature]
Gaffney Police Dept.

ARREST WARRANT

1068038

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

TRUE BILL

[Signature]
Foreperson of Grand Jury
Date: 7-30-09

VERDICT

Guilty

[Signature]
Foreperson of Petit Jury
Date: 11/18/09

09-GS-11-0825

The State of South Carolina

County of Cherokee

Trey Gowdy, Solicitor

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

JUL 30 2009

TERM

THE STATE
vs.

John Bendarian Bonner

Indictment for

GRAND LARCENY

SC Code: 16-13-30 (B)(2)

8644872754

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF CHEROKEE .)

INDICTMENT

JUL 30 2009

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on _____ the

Grand Jurors of Cherokee County present upon their oath:

GRAND LARCENY

That John Bendarian Bonner, did in Cherokee County, on or about April 2, 2008, with the intent to permanently deprive the owner, take and carry away cash, valued at five thousand dollars or more, belonging to Corner Stop #2, in violation of §16-13-30 (B)(2) Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.


DEPUTY SOLICITOR

14/24

WITNESSES

Gaffney Police Dept.

[Signature]

Trey Gowdy, Solicitor

The State of South Carolina

County of Cherokee

14:54:13

03-07-2013

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

1068037

JUL 30 2009 TERM

THE STATE

vs.

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

TRUE BILL

[Signature]

Foreperson of Grand Jury

Date: 7-30-09

John Bendarian Bonner

VERDICT

Guilty

Indictment for

BURGLARY, SECOND DEGREE
(BUILDING)

SC Code: 16-11-312(B)

CDR Code: 0086

Class FEL/D

Foreperson of Petit Jury

Date: 11/18/09

8644872754

D-09-065-11-0826

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF CHEROKEE)

INDICTMENT

JUL 30 2009

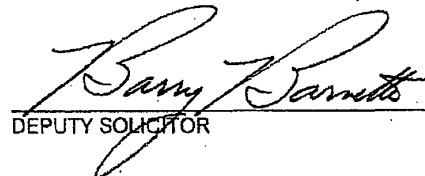
At a Court of General Sessions, convened on _____, the

Grand Jurors of Cherokee County present upon their oath:

BURGLARY, SECOND DEGREE**(Building)**

That John Bendarian Bonner, did in Cherokee County on or about April 2, 2008, willfully and unlawfully enter a building belonging to Corner Stop #2 without consent and with intent to commit a crime therein, located at [REDACTED], Gaffney, South Carolina, and either: when, in effecting entry or while in the building or in immediate flight therefrom, he or another participant in the crime: was armed with a deadly weapon or explosive; or the burglary is committed by a person with a prior record of two or more convictions for burglary or housebreaking or a combination of both; or entering or remaining occurs in the nighttime, in violation of §16-11-312 (B), *THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA*, (1976, as amended).

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.


DEPUTY SOLICITOR

WITNESSES

Gaffney Police Dept.

[Signature]

03-07-2013

14:54:51

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

1068044

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

TRUE BILL

Foreperson of Grand Jury

Carl M. Miller
7-30-09

VERDICT

Guilty

Foreperson of Petit Jury

Donald W. Hester
Date: 11/18/09

DOCKET NO. 09-GS-11-0827

The State of South Carolina

County of Cherokee

Trey Gowdy, Solicitor

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

JUL 30 2009

TERM

THE STATE
vs.

John Bendarian Bonner

Indictment for

KIDNAPPING

SC Code: 16-03-910

CDR Code: 0095

Class FEL-A

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF CHEROKEE)

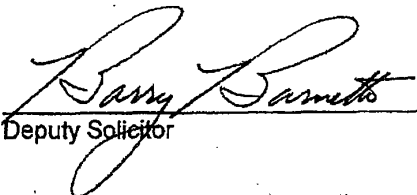
INDICTMENT

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on JUL 30 2009 the
Grand Jurors of Cherokee County present upon their oath:

KIDNAPPING

That John Bendarian Bonner, did in Cherokee County on or about April 2, 2008,
willfully and unlawfully with criminal intent seize, confine, inveigle, decoy, kidnap, abduct
or carry away one Dipali Darji without authority of law, all in violation of §16-03-910,
THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, (1976, as amended).

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such
case made and provided.


Deputy Solicitor

WITNESSES

[Signature]
Gaffney Police Dept.

03-07-2013 15:00:51

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

1068045

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

TRUE BILL

[Signature]
Foreperson of Grand Jury

Date: 7-30-09

VERDICT

Guilty

[Signature]
Foreperson of Petit Jury
Date: 11/18/89

D
09-65-11-0828

The State of South Carolina

County of Cherokee

Trey Gowdy, Solicitor

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

JUL 30 2009

TERM

THE STATE

vs.

John Bandarian Bonner

Indictment for

ARMED ROBBERY

SC Code: 16-11-330 (A)
CDR Code: 139
CLASS FEL/A

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF CHEROKEE)

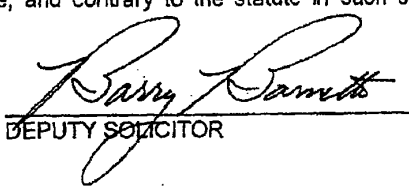
INDICTMENT

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on JUL 30 2009, the Grand Jurors of Cherokee County present upon their oath:

ARMED ROBBERY

That John Bendarian Bonner, did in Cherokee County on or about April 2, 2008, while armed with a pistol, or other deadly weapon, or while alleging, either by action or words, he was armed while using a representation of a deadly weapon or any object which a person present during the commission of the robbery reasonably believed to be a deadly weapon, feloniously take from the person or presence of Dipali Darji, by means of force, violence, and/or intimidation, goods or monies of Dipali Darji, such goods or monies being described as follows: cash, with intent to deprive the owner permanently of such property, in violation of §16-11-330 (A), *THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA*, (1976), as amended.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.


DEPUTY SOLICITOR

22 / 24

WITNESSES

Gaffney Police Dept.

[Signature]

03-07-2013 14:55:30

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

1068046

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

TRUE BILL

[Signature]
Foreperson of Grand Jury
Date: 7-30-09

VERDICT

Guilty

[Signature]
Foreperson of Petit Jury
Date: 11/18/09

DO 09aGS-11-0829

The State of South Carolina

County of Cherokee

Trey Gowdy, Solicitor

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

JUL 30 2009

TERM

THE STATE

VS.

John Bendarian Bonner

Indictment for

ASSAULT AND BATTERY OF A
HIGH AND AGGRAVATED NATURE

SC Code: 17-25-30
CDR Code: 013
Class MIS/UNC

8644872754

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF CHEROKEE)

INDICTMENT

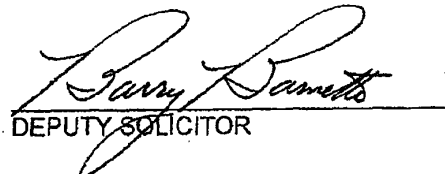
At a Court of General Sessions, convened on JUL 30 2009 the

Grand Jurors of Cherokee County present upon their oath:

ASSAULT AND BATTERY OF HIGH AND AGGRAVATED NATURE

That John Bendarian Bonner, did in Cherokee County on or about April 2, 2008, commit an assault and battery upon the victim, Dipali Darji, constituting an unlawful act of violent injury against Dipali Darji, accompanied by circumstances of aggravation, including use of a deadly weapon, infliction of serious bodily injury, or great disparity in the ages or physical conditions of the parties, to wit: by striking the victim repeatedly about the face and body, in violation of §17-25-0030, *THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA*, (1976), as amended.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.


DEPUTY SOLICITOR

INMATE SEARCH DETAIL REPORT

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN (00338030)



INMATE DESCRIPTION		INMATE SENTENCE AND LOCATION	
SEX:	MALE	SCDC ID:	00338030
RACE:	BLACK	SID:	SC01886460
HEIGHT:	5' 08"	OFFENDER TYPE:	ADULT-STRAIGHT SENTENCE
WEIGHT:	150 lbs.	ADMISSION DATE:	11/19/2009
AGE:	33	LOCATION:	KERSHAW
CITIZENSHIP:	CITIZEN - NATIVE BORN	DORM-ROOM-BUNK:	PA-0050-T
BUILD:	MEDIUM	EWC LEVEL:	5F5
COMPLEXION:	LIGHT BROWN	EEC LEVEL:	
HAIR COLOR:	BLACK	PROJECTED RELEASE DATE:	05/19/2060
EYE COLOR:	BROWN	PROJECTED PAROLE ELIGIBILITY:	NOT ELIGIBLE
PICTURE DATE:	02/18/2015	SUP. FURLOUGH ELIGIBILITY:	NOT ELIGIBLE

CURRENT OFFENSES

OFFENSE	SENTENCE TYPE	YRS	MOS	DYS	COUNTY	START DATE	V/NV	CAT	INDICT	STATUS
BURGLARY-1ST DEGREE	ADULT-STRAIGHT SENTENCE	60	0	0	CHEROKEE	06/01/2009	V	4	09GS110824	ACTIVE
ASSLT&BATTERY-HIGH&AGG.NA	ADULT-STRAIGHT SENTENCE	10	0	0	CHEROKEE	06/01/2009	N	3	09GS110829	ACTIVE
KIDNAPPING	ADULT-STRAIGHT SENTENCE	30	0	0	CHEROKEE	06/01/2009	V	5	09GS110827	ACTIVE
BURGLARY-2ND DEGREE	ADULT-STRAIGHT SENTENCE	15	0	0	CHEROKEE	06/01/2009	V	4	09GS110826	ACTIVE
ARMED ROBBERY	ADULT-STRAIGHT SENTENCE	30	0	0	CHEROKEE	06/01/2009	V	4	09GS110828	ACTIVE
GRAND LARCENY	ADULT-STRAIGHT SENTENCE	5	0	0	CHEROKEE	06/01/2009	N	2	09GS110825	ACTIVE

ESCAPES

NO ESCAPES DURING CURRENT INCARCERATION

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

SANCTIONS NOT AVAILABLE IN THE AUTOMATED SYSTEM PRIOR TO JANUARY 2009

DATE	DESCRIPTION
01/08/2024	USE,POSS NARC,MARIJ,UNAUTH DRUG,INHALANT
	LOSS OF GOOD TIME: 30 DAYS
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 180 DAYS
	DISC. DETENTION FOR 30 DAYS
	LOSS OF TABLET ENTERTAINMENT PRIVILEGES FOR 90 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 180 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 180 DAYS
10/26/2023	CREAT/ASSIST WITH SOCIAL NETWORKING SITE
	LOSS OF GOOD TIME: 30 DAYS
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 90 DAYS
	LOSS OF TABLET ENTERTAINMENT PRIVILEGES FOR 90 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 90 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 90 DAYS



INMATE SEARCH DETAIL REPORT

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN (00338030)

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

SANCTIONS NOT AVAILABLE IN THE AUTOMATED SYSTEM PRIOR TO JANUARY 2009

DATE	DESCRIPTION
08/12/2023	SEXUAL MISCONDUCT
	LOSS OF GOOD TIME 30 DAYS
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 60 DAYS
	LOSS OF TABLET ENTERTAINMENT PRIVILEGES FOR 60 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 60 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 60 DAYS
11/17/2020	POSS. OR/ATTEMPT TO POSSESS CELL PHONE
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 90 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 90 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEVISION PRIVILEGES FOR 365 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 90 DAYS
10/03/2020	POSS. OR/ATTEMPT TO POSSESS CELL PHONE
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 120 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 120 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEVISION PRIVILEGES FOR 365 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 120 DAYS
05/06/2020	POSS. OR/ATTEMPT TO POSSESS CELL PHONE
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 90 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 90 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEVISION PRIVILEGES FOR 365 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 90 DAYS
03/27/2020	OUT OF PLACE
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 30 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 30 DAYS
03/19/2020	EXHIBITIONISM AND PUBLIC MASTURBATION
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 45 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 45 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEVISION PRIVILEGES FOR 365 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 45 DAYS
03/10/2020	POSSESSION OF CONTRABAND
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 30 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 30 DAYS
03/19/2019	USE,POSS NARC,MARIJ,UNAUTH DRUG,INHALANT
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 150 DAYS
	DISC. DETENTION FOR 60 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 150 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEVISION PRIVILEGES FOR 360 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 150 DAYS
08/16/2017	USE,POSS NARC,MARIJ,UNAUTH DRUG,INHALANT
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 180 DAYS
	DISC. DETENTION FOR 60 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 180 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEVISION PRIVILEGES FOR 360 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 180 DAYS
02/23/2017	USE,POSS NARC,MARIJ,UNAUTH DRUG,INHALANT
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 150 DAYS

INMATE SEARCH DETAIL REPORT

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN (00338030)

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

SANCTIONS NOT AVAILABLE IN THE AUTOMATED SYSTEM PRIOR TO JANUARY 2009

DATE	DESCRIPTION
	DISC. DETENTION FOR 60 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 150 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEVISION PRIVILEGES FOR 360 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 150 DAYS
01/12/2017	INCITING/CREATING A DISTURBANCE
	LOSS OF GOOD TIME: 6 DAYS
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 45 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 45 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEVISION PRIVILEGES FOR 180 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 45 DAYS
12/25/2016	EXHIBITIONISM AND PUBLIC MASTURBATION
	LOSS OF GOOD TIME: 6 DAYS
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 135 DAYS
	DISC. DETENTION FOR 45 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 135 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEVISION PRIVILEGES FOR 360 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 135 DAYS
11/02/2015	POSS. OR/ATTEMPT TO POSSESS CELL PHONE
	LOSS OF GOOD TIME: 30 DAYS
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 240 DAYS
	DISC. DETENTION FOR 60 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 240 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEVISION PRIVILEGES FOR 365 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 240 DAYS
11/02/2015	POSSESSION OF CONTRABAND
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 30 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 30 DAYS
11/02/2015	USE,POSS NARC,MARIJ,UNAUTH DRUG,INHALANT
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 165 DAYS
	DISC. DETENTION FOR 45 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 165 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEVISION PRIVILEGES FOR 365 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 165 DAYS
10/30/2015	USE,POSS NARC,MARIJ,UNAUTH DRUG,INHALANT
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 160 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 160 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEVISION PRIVILEGES FOR 365 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 160 DAYS
07/16/2015	USE,POSS NARC,MARIJ,UNAUTH DRUG,INHALANT
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 240 DAYS
	DISC. DETENTION FOR 60 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 240 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEVISION PRIVILEGES FOR 365 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 240 DAYS
02/03/2015	USE,POSS NARC,MARIJ,UNAUTH DRUG,INHALANT
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 240 DAYS

INMATE SEARCH DETAIL REPORT

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN (00338030)

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

SANCTIONS NOT AVAILABLE IN THE AUTOMATED SYSTEM PRIOR TO JANUARY 2009

DATE	DESCRIPTION
	DISC. DETENTION FOR 60 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 240 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 240 DAYS
10/18/2014	USE, POSS NARC, MARIJ, UNAUTH DRUG, INHALANT
02/18/2014	USE, POSS NARC, MARIJ, UNAUTH DRUG, INHALANT
05/13/2013	POSSESSION OF CONTRABAND
05/13/2013	USE, POSS NARC, MARIJ, UNAUTH DRUG, INHALANT
	DISC. DETENTION FOR 180 DAYS
10/26/2011	USE, POSS NARC, MARIJ, UNAUTH DRUG, INHALANT
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 277 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 277 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 277 DAYS
10/26/2011	POSS. OR/ATTEMPT TO POSSESS CELL PHONE
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 720 DAYS
	DISC. DETENTION FOR 360 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 720 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 720 DAYS
10/26/2011	POSSESSION OF CONTRABAND
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 180 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 180 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 180 DAYS
01/01/2011	POSSESSION OF CONTRABAND
	LOSS OF CANTEEN PRIVILEGES FOR 100 DAYS
	LOSS OF TELEPHONE PRIVILEGES FOR 100 DAYS
	LOSS OF VISITATION PRIVILEGES FOR 100 DAYS

MOVEMENT

MOVEMENT DATE	TO LOCATION	STATUS	REASON
01/17/2024	KERSHAW	INCARCERATED	RETURN FROM COURT
01/17/2024	CHEROKEE CO	AUTH ABSENCE (AWL)	TO COURT
05/15/2023	KERSHAW	INCARCERATED	ADMINISTRATIVE
12/31/2020	LIEBER	INCARCERATED	ADMINISTRATIVE
12/10/2019	TYGER RIVER	INCARCERATED	ADMINISTRATIVE
11/10/2016	LEE	INCARCERATED	ADMINISTRATIVE
11/09/2016	KIRKLAND	INCARCERATED	RETURN FROM COURT
11/08/2016	SPARTANBURG CO	AUTH ABSENCE (AWL)	TO COURT
06/15/2016	LEE	INCARCERATED	RETURN FROM COURT
06/13/2016	SPARTANBURG CO	AUTH ABSENCE (AWL)	TO COURT
01/22/2015	LEE	INCARCERATED	ADMINISTRATIVE
01/22/2015	KIRKLAND	INCARCERATED	MEDICAL
01/22/2013	LEE	INCARCERATED	RETURN FROM COURT
12/20/2012	CHEROKEE CO	AUTH ABSENCE (AWL)	TO COURT
11/29/2012	LEE	INCARCERATED	RETURN FROM COURT
11/21/2012	CHEROKEE CO	AUTH ABSENCE (AWL)	TO COURT
05/16/2011	LEE	INCARCERATED	ADMINISTRATIVE
05/16/2011	EVANS	INCARCERATED	MEDICAL

INMATE SEARCH DETAIL REPORT

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN (00338030)

MOVEMENT

MOVEMENT DATE	TO LOCATION	STATUS	REASON
01/12/2010	LEE	INCARCERATED	ADMINISTRATIVE
11/19/2009	KIRKLAND	INCARCERATED	R&E PROCESSING
11/19/2009	PERRY	INCARCERATED	NEW ADMISSION

EARNED WORK CREDITS

JOB DESCRIPTION	START DATE	END DATE	TERMINATION REASON	JOB LEVEL
WARDKEEPER	11/28/2023			5F5
WARDKEEPER	08/29/2023	10/31/2023	PLACED IN ST/SP CUSTODY	3F5
WARDKEEPER	05/18/2023	08/28/2023	ASLT/DRUG/MAJOR DISC	2F5
WARDKEEPER ASSISTANT	05/02/2023	05/15/2023	INSTIT TRANSFER	2F5
GENERAL WORKER	07/24/2022	05/01/2023	LATERAL TRANSFER	3F5
GENERAL WORKER	02/18/2021	07/23/2022	CUSTODY REVIEW	5F5
WARDKEEPER	06/10/2020	11/17/2020	PLACED IN ST/SP CUSTODY	5F5
WARDKEEPER	04/06/2020	06/06/2020	PLACED IN ST/SP CUSTODY	5F5
WARDKEEPER	02/18/2020	04/05/2020	ASLT/DRUG/MAJOR DISC	2F5
WARDKEEPER	12/12/2019	02/17/2020	POLICY CHANGE 2020	3F5
GENERAL WORKER	06/05/2019	12/10/2019	INSTIT TRANSFER	3F5
GENERAL WORKER	12/11/2014	11/02/2015	PLACED IN ST/SP CUSTODY	3F5
WASH RACK ATTENDANT	11/18/2010	12/14/2010	UNSAT JOB PERFORM	3F5

EARNED EDUCATION CREDITS

EEC DESCRIPTION	START DATE	END DATE	TERMINATION REASON
LVL 3 - FULL TIME(NO EWC)	01/26/2010	11/18/2010	COMPLETED EDUC PROGRAM

CERTIFICATES

CERTIFICATE DESCRIPTION	RECEIVED DATE
HIGH SCHOOL (GED)	10/12/2010

PROGRAMS

NO PROGRAMS DURING INCARCERATION(S)

9:21:33 Monday, February 5, 2024

57

DISI100D

SCDC OFFENDER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
DISCIPLINARY SYSTEM

02/05/24
C015635

SCDC ID: 338030

DISPLAY INMATE OFFENSE HISTORY

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

CURR LOC: KERSHAW

LEGAL NAME:

PURCHASED TV

OFFENDER TYPE: ADULT-STRAIGHT

SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS: N

TABLET ELIG: Y

CASE#	OFFENSE DESCRIPTION	TYPE ACTION	OFFENSE DATE	HEARING DATE	NET GT	DHO	OFF LVL
00065	USE, POSS NARC, MARIJ, U	MAJOR DI	01/08/24	01/23/24	00030	CONVICTED	1
00064	CREAT/ASSIST WITH SOC	MAJOR DI	10/26/23	11/16/23	00030	CONVICTED	1
00063	SEXUAL MISCONDUCT	MAJOR DI	08/12/23	08/28/23	00030	CONVICTED	2
00062	INTERFERING WITH DUTI	OTHER AC	03/28/23	04/04/23	00000	CLOSED	4
00061	INTERFERING WITH COUN	OTHER AC	03/28/23	04/04/23	00000	CLOSED	3
00060	REFUSING OR FAILING O	OTHER AC	03/28/23	04/04/23	00000	CLOSED	3
00054	POSS. OR/ATTEMPT TO P	MAJOR DI	11/17/20	12/21/20	00000	CONVICTED	1
00053	POSS. OR/ATTEMPT TO P	MAJOR DI	10/03/20	11/02/20	00000	CONVICTED	1
00052	POSS. OR/ATTEMPT TO P	MAJOR DI	05/06/20	05/27/20	00000	CONVICTED	1
00051	OUT OF PLACE	MAJOR DI	03/27/20	04/06/20	00000	CONVICTED	3
00050	EXHIBITIONISM AND PUB	MAJOR DI	03/19/20	04/06/20	00000	CONVICTED	2
00049	POSSESSION OF CONTRAB	MAJOR DI	03/10/20	03/16/20	00000	CONVICTED	3

PAGE 0001

SELECT A RECORD AND PRESS <ENTER> TO DISPLAY OR <PF04> TO MODIFY

PF4-MODIFY PF6-DISMISSED/NOT GUILTY

PF11-QUIT PF10-MAIN MENU

9:21:44 Monday, February 5, 2024

DISI100D

SCDC OFFENDER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
DISCIPLINARY SYSTEM

02/05/24
C015635

SCDC ID: 338030

DISPLAY INMATE OFFENSE HISTORY

CURR LOC: KERSHAW

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

LEGAL NAME:

PURCHASED TV

OFFENDER TYPE: ADULT-STRAIGHT

SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS: N

TABLET ELIG: Y

CASE#	OFFENSE DESCRIPTION	TYPE	OFFENSE DATE	HEARING DATE	NET GT LOST	DHO DECISION	OFF LVL
00048	USE, POSS NARC, MARIJ, U	MAJOR DI	03/19/19	04/10/19	00000	CONVICTED	1
00046	USE, POSS NARC, MARIJ, U	MAJOR DI	08/16/17	09/07/17	00000	CONVICTED	1
00045	USE, POSS NARC, MARIJ, U	MAJOR DI	02/23/17	03/22/17	00000	CONVICTED	1
00044	INCITING/CREATING A D	MAJOR DI	01/12/17	02/01/17	00006	CONVICTED	2
00043	EXHIBITIONISM AND PUB	MAJOR DI	12/25/16	01/18/17	00006	CONVICTED	2
00042	POSS. OR/ATTEMPT TO P	MAJOR DI	11/02/15	11/24/15	00030	CONVICTED	1
00041	POSSESSION OF CONTRAB	MAJOR DI	11/02/15	11/24/15	00000	CONVICTED	3
00040	USE, POSS NARC, MARIJ, U	MAJOR DI	11/02/15	11/24/15	00000	CONVICTED	1
00039	USE, POSS NARC, MARIJ, U	MAJOR DI	10/30/15	11/24/15	00000	CONVICTED	1
00038	INTERFERING WITH COUN	ADMINIST	10/11/15	10/13/15	00000	CONVICTED	3
00037	REFUSING OR FAILING O	ADMINIST	10/11/15	10/13/15	00000	CONVICTED	3
00036	USE, POSS NARC, MARIJ, U	MAJOR DI	07/16/15	08/10/15	00000	CONVICTED	1

PAGE 0002

PF4-MODIFY PF6-DISMISSED/NOT GUILTY

PF11-QUIT PF10-MAIN MENU

9:21:54 Monday, February 5, 2024

DISI100D

SCDC OFFENDER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
DISCIPLINARY SYSTEM

02/05/24
C015635

SCDC ID: 338030

DISPLAY INMATE OFFENSE HISTORY

CURR LOC: KERSHAW

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

LEGAL NAME:

PURCHASED TV

OFFENDER TYPE: ADULT-STRAIGHT

SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS: N TABLET ELIG: Y

CASE#	OFFENSE DESCRIPTION	TYPE ACTION	OFFENSE DATE	HEARING DATE	NET GT LOST	DHO DECISION	OFF LVL
00035	INTERFERING WITH DUTI	ADMINIST	04/02/15	04/09/15	00000	CONVICTED	4
00034	USE,POSS NARC,MARIJ,U	MAJOR DI	02/03/15	03/03/15	00000	CONVICTED	1
00032	OUT OF PLACE	ADMINIST	01/06/15	01/09/15	00000	CONVICTED	3
00033	REFUSING OR FAILING O	ADMINIST	01/04/15	01/06/15	00000	CONVICTED	3
00031	REFUSING OR FAILING O	ADMINIST	12/06/14	12/09/14	00000	CONVICTED	3
00030	INTERFERING WITH COUN	ADMINIST	12/06/14	12/09/14	00000	CONVICTED	3
00029	USE,POSS NARC,MARIJ,U	MAJOR DI	10/16/14	11/12/14	00000	CONVICTED	1
00028	USE,POSS NARC,MARIJ,U	MAJOR DI	02/18/14	03/10/14	00000	CONVICTED	1
00025	POSSESSION OF CONTRAB	MAJOR DI	05/13/13	06/10/13	00000	CONVICTED	3
00024	USE,POSS NARC,MARIJ,U	MAJOR DI	05/13/13	06/10/13	00000	CONVICTED	1
00023	REFUSING OR FAILING O	ADMINIST	02/14/13	02/19/13	00000	CONVICTED	3
00022	USE OBSCENE,VULGAR,PR	ADMINIST	02/14/13	02/19/13	00000	CONVICTED	3

PAGE 0003

PF4-MODIFY PF6-DISMISSED/NOT GUILTY

PF11-QUIT PF10-MAIN MENU

9:22:15 Monday, February 5, 2024

DISI100D

SCDC OFFENDER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
DISCIPLINARY SYSTEM

02/05/24
C015635

SCDC ID: 338030

DISPLAY INMATE OFFENSE HISTORY

CURR LOC: KERSHAW

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

LEGAL NAME:

PURCHASED TV

OFFENDER TYPE: ADULT-STRAIGHT

SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS: N

TABLET ELIG: Y

CASE#	OFFENSE DESCRIPTION	TYPE ACTION	OFFENSE DATE	HEARING DATE	NET GT LOST	DHO DECISION	OFF LVL
00021	POSSESSION OF CONTRAB	ADMINIST	11/14/12	11/17/12	00000	CONVICTED	3
00020	REFUSING OR FAILING O	ADMINIST	08/26/12	08/29/12	00000	CONVICTED	3
00019	OUT OF PLACE	ADMINIST	08/26/12	08/29/12	00000	CONVICTED	3
00018	USE, POSS NARC, MARIJ, U	MAJOR DI	10/26/11	11/16/11	00000	CONVICTED	1
00017	POSS. OR/ATTEMPT TO P	MAJOR DI	10/26/11	11/16/11	00000	CONVICTED	1
00016	POSSESSION OF CONTRAB	MAJOR DI	10/26/11	11/16/11	00000	CONVICTED	3
00014	POSSESSION OF CONTRAB	ADMINIST	07/28/11	08/02/11	00000	CONVICTED	3
00012	REFUSING OR FAILING O	ADMINIST	06/19/11	06/27/11	00000	CONVICTED	3
00011	INTERFERING WITH COUN	ADMINIST	06/16/11	06/22/11	00000	CONVICTED	3
00010	REFUSING OR FAILING O	ADMINIST	06/16/11	06/22/11	00000	CONVICTED	3
00008	REFUSING OR FAILING O	ADMINIST	05/13/11	05/18/11	00000	CONVICTED	3
00007	REFUSING OR FAILING O	ADMINIST	05/09/11	05/12/11	00000	CONVICTED	3

PAGE 0004

PF4-MODIFY PF6-DISMISSED/NOT GUILTY

PF11-QUIT PF10-MAIN MENU

9:23:12 Monday, February 5, 2024

DISI100D

SCDC OFFENDER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
DISCIPLINARY SYSTEM

02/05/24
C015635

SCDC ID: 338030

DISPLAY INMATE OFFENSE HISTORY

CURR LOC: KERSHAW

BONNER, JOHN BENDARIAN

LEGAL NAME:

PURCHASED TV

OFFENDER TYPE: ADULT-STRAIGHT

SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS: N

TABLET ELIG: Y

CASE#	OFFENSE DESCRIPTION	TYPE ACTION	OFFENSE DATE	HEARING DATE	NET GT LOST	DHO DECISION	OFF LVL
- 00005	POSSESSION OF CONTRAB	MAJOR DI	01/01/11	01/13/11	00000	CONVICTED	3
- 00003	OUT OF PLACE	ADMINIST	04/08/10	04/14/10	00000	CONVICTED	3
- 00002	INTERFERING WITH COUN	ADMINIST	04/08/10	04/14/10	00000	CONVICTED	3
END OF LIST							

PAGE 0005

PF4-MODIFY PF6-DISMISSED/NOT GUILTY

PF11-QUIT PF10-MAIN MENU



To whoever this may concern

I'm the daughter of John Bonner, I'm 15 going on 16 years old. I go to school and maintain a 70 or above grade average. One thing I can say about my dad is that he is my backbone, my guy best-friend, unlike most people dads my dad knew about me and still kept in touch with my mama for the past 13 years of my life. What really hurt's my feelings is that I never get to see my dad, free living his life, like how we talk about, I know for a fact that my dad have changed mentally as a grown man and a father. It's unbearable even now that I don't see my dad face to face, everybody tells me that I'm his twin, and that I got my dad always but how I supposed to know if I only got 1 chance to see him when I was little? All my dad talks about is getting out of jail, and playing basketball and getting his life on track. I really wish for my dad to get the chance to be here with me through-out my life and my brothers. When life-altering things happen to me my dad talk to me and I try to not cry because every girl needs they father, I know I do!!! if you were me how would you feel? PSA- Tell my dad that I love him and to stay prayed up. Luke 23:34 "Jesus said, father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing".

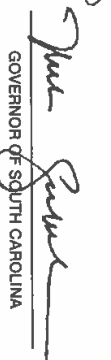
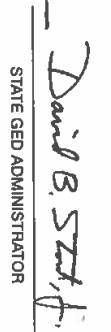
Sincerely,
Khasimura Robinson

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY DIPLOMA

Be it known that **JOHN BONNER** has satisfactorily completed the Tests of General Educational Development and upon the recommendation of the Director of the Office of Adult Education of the State Department of Education, the State Board of Education awards this diploma, which is regarded to be equivalent to the high school diploma. Given at Columbia, South Carolina, **October 7th, 2010.**

CHAIRMAN, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA

STATE GED ADMINISTRATOR

RECEIVED

May 18 2026

SC Court of Appeals

Certificate of Counsel

Counsel for appellant hereby certifies that the Record on Appeal contains all material proposed to be included by any of the parties and not any other material.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Rosalind S.D. Major

Rosalind S.D. Major, S.C. Bar No. 106017

Justice 360

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ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT