

# *News Release*

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

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## **Charleston Jury Convicts Adrian Simmons for Near Fatal Attack**

**Charleston, S.C.** –Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson announced that the defendant, Adrian Vashard Simmons, was convicted by a Charleston County jury of Assault and Battery of a High and Aggravated Nature. Circuit Court Judge Gibbons sentenced the Defendant to twelve (12) years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections.

The case was investigated by the Charleston County Sheriff’s Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant Solicitors Charles M. Condon, Jr., and Marian Askins of the Ninth Circuit Solicitor’s Office.

During the three day trial, testimony revealed that the victim was a computer and cell phone repairman who was hired by Simmons to repair his broken phone. On September 24, 2014, the victim agreed to meet outside of Simmons’ home on Grimball Road in James Island to return the cellphone and to collect the fee for his services. Unbeknownst to the victim, Simmons was angered by the victim’s attempts to collect the money for his work. Upon arriving, the two shook hands but when the victim walked back to his car to retrieve the phone, Simmons struck him in the back of the head with an unknown object. The blow fractured the victim’s skull, caused severe bleeding on the brain, and resulted in a traumatic brain injury. Simmons then leaned over the victim’s lifeless body and taunted him. Fortunately, the victim’s cousin was a passenger in the car and able to drag him to safety. He was rushed to MUSC where surgeons performed a life saving craniotomy. The victim underwent months of physical therapy and rehabilitation to learn how to walk and function again. Condon stated that “the victim suffered greatly from this vicious attack, and I am most thankful he had the courage to face his attacker in court so that the Simmons could be brought to justice.” Simmons testified in his defense and unsuccessfully claimed he had acted in self defense.

The defendant, Adrian Simmons, had previous convictions for domestic violence, cruelty to children, resisting arrest, failure to stop for a blue light, and threatening the life of a public official.

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