

News Release

For Immediate Release
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Co-Defendants found Guilty of Kidnapping, Strong Arm Robbery and Assault & Battery 1st Degree by Berkeley County Jury

Moncks Corner, S.C. – A Berkeley County jury found Ryan Carl Newman and Jessica Lynn Clark of Summerville guilty of Kidnapping, Strong Arm Robbery and Assault & Battery 1st Degree on Friday, September 14.

The State presented evidence in trial that the defendants conspired together to lure the victim out to a desolate dirt road in the Summerville area of Berkeley County where Defendant Newman, along with another co-defendant who will be tried at a later date, were waiting to rob the victim. Once Defendant Clark picked up the victim from his house she drove him to the incident location where the Defendants proceeded to beat the victim, rob him of his wallet, keys and cell phone. The Defendants then stripped the victim of all of his clothes and left him naked on the side of the road as they left the scene in Defendant Clark's car.

Assistant Solicitor Ashley Cornwell said, "We are pleased that the jury rendered a verdict in accordance to the standards of law in which we hold all members of our community accountable."

Attorney Chad D. Shelton represented Defendant Ryan Newman and Attorney Christopher P. Biering represented Defendant Jessica Clark at trial. Defendant Newman, who has a prior Burglary Conviction on his record, was sentenced to fourteen (14) years in the Department of Corrections. Defendant Clark does not have a prior record and her sentencing has been postponed. The cases were prosecuted by Assistant Solicitors Ashley Cornwell and Ben Shelton.