## News Release

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## Ladson man sentenced to 26 years in prison for sex abuse

**Moncks Corner, SC--** James Doscher, a sixty–three year old man from Ladson, pled guilty Friday, April 27, 2012, to sexually abusing a child over an eight year period. Judge R. Markley Dennis sentenced him to 26 years on the Criminal Sexual Conduct w/ a minor in the  $1^{st}$  Degree, 20 years on Criminal Sexual Conduct with a minor in the second degree and 15 years on the charge of Committing a Lewd Act on a child. The sentences will run concurrently and he must serve eighty-five percent of the 26-year sentence before being eligible for release.

Assistant Solicitor Anne Williams, of the Ninth Circuit Solicitor's Special Victims Unit, explained, "Doscher was only subject to the sentencing ranges in law at the time of the offenses and because the crimes occurred ten years ago, the maximum time he could have been sentenced to on the most serious charge was up to 30 years."

Williams stated, "Doscher previously was the pastor of New Life Church in Goose Creek. A witness for the defendant stated that Doscher presided more recently as a small group leader at Faith Assembly in Summerville. The abuse began when the victim was approximately 8 years old and it continued until she was 14 years old. The victim made a report to family members when she was 12 but no action was taken. The victim disclosed again, this time to law enforcement, after she became an adult. Her final report was to her fear that other children may be suffering Doscher's abuse."

Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson noted that, "this prosecution and the hefty sentence is a great message to victims who have not yet been heard. While these cases often have evidentiary challenges, we are willing to work victims and their families to fight for them. It is never too late to come forward."