

News Release

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Brendan Bannister sentenced to Twenty-Five years in prison for Rape Committed while on GPS Monitor

Moncks Corner, S.C. – Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson announced that a twenty-five year old Berkeley County man pled guilty on Monday to Criminal Sexual Conduct in the first degree and Burglary in the first degree for a Moncks Corner assault that occurred in 2011. Judge J.C. Nicholson, Jr sentenced Brendan Bannister to Twenty-five (25) years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections. He must serve eighty-five percent of his sentence before being eligible for parole.

In the early morning hours of March 11, 2011, the victim woke up in her bedroom to find a stranger standing over her wearing dark clothing, latex gloves and a black shirt covering his face. The assailant, later determined to be Brendan Bannister, sexually assaulted the woman before she escaped and dialed 911 as the defendant fled. Although the victim was unable to identify the defendant, he dropped his Wal-Mart card at the scene. Moncks Corner Police Department determined Bannister was out on bond for a previous offense and was wearing an ankle bracelet with a GPS (satellite) monitoring device.

Once detectives discovered the Defendant was subject to GPS monitoring, they were able to locate and arrest him immediately. Subsequent Satellite Monitoring reports confirmed that the Defendant was at the crime scene at the time of the assault. Solicitor Wilson stated, “This is yet another case that highlights the sham of electronic monitoring and the reason I moved to halt this sort of monitoring. This Defendant was on bond for indecent exposure which then escalated to full blown rape while being monitored. Nobody was notified that this guy was out-and-about at a time when he was supposed to be under house arrest.”

The victim, who was traumatized by the assault, was relieved by the sentence and hoped she could finally feel safe again in her own home.

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