

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 21, 2015

SPARTANBURG COUNTY MAN RECEIVES 25-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE FOR SEX ASSAULTS

A Spartanburg County man received a 25-year prison sentence today for sexually abusing five young boys.

Keith Smyth, 21, pleaded guilty to four counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct with a minor and one count of second-degree criminal sexual conduct with a minor.

The abuse occurred during October, November and December of 2010 at a mobile home park in the Southern Shops community. The victims were between the ages of 7 and 12 years of age and they were acquaintances of Smyth.

Smyth, who was 16-years-old at the time, admitted to the sex acts during an interview with sheriff's deputies. The victims described the crimes in detail during forensic examinations at the Children's Advocacy Center.

Smyth underwent a series of mental health evaluations before being allowed to enter the guilty plea.

"I'm pleased we were able to secure a lengthy prison sentence without exposing the victims to the stress of having to describe what happened to a jury," Assistant Solicitor Tony Leibert said.

Leibert partnered with Assistant Solicitor Megan Moricle to prosecute the case.

Smyth will serve 20 years of Circuit Judge Derham Cole's prison sentence before he is eligible for release. Smyth will undergo a court-ordered mental health evaluation and his name will be added to the Sex Offender Registry when he is released from prison. Smyth is also required to wear a GPS tracking device for life.

For more information, contact Murray Glenn at (864) 809-4892 or mglenn@spartanburgcounty.org.

###