

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 16, 2009

SPARTANBURG MAN RECEIVES LENGTHY PRISON SENTENCE FOR ASSAULTS

A Spartanburg man received a 20-year prison sentence and 5 years of probation today after he admitted to assaulting three young girls.

Samuel Eric Tessnear, 34, pleaded guilty to three counts of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature. Circuit Judge Roger Couch issued consecutive 10-year prison sentences and 5 years probation. Tessnear will also have his name added to the Sex Offender Registry when he is released from prison.

Tessnear admitted to inappropriate physical contact with girls between the ages of 8-15 between Jan. 1, 2006 and April 26, 2008. The victims described incidents in detail for sheriff's deputies and a Children's Advocacy Center forensic examiner. Consensual sex was involved in one of the cases.

"I'm pleased we were able to resolve this case without exposing the victims to the stress of a trial," Assistant Solicitor Susan Reese said. "This experience has been a life-changing ordeal for them and I hope they continue making progress in their recovery."

For more information, contact Murray Glenn at 809-4892.

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