

SPARTANBURG COUNTY MAN RECEIVES 50-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE FOR DOMESTIC KILLING

A Spartanburg County man received a 50-year prison sentence today after he admitted to stabbing his girlfriend to death.

Tyrone Bell Perry, 26, pleaded guilty to murder before Circuit Judge Cordell Maddox. He will serve every day of the sentence.

Perry stabbed Gloria Victoria Thomas, 22, more than 20 times on Jan. 4, 2005. The fatal attack occurred hours after Thomas attempted to break up with him.

Spartanburg County sheriff's deputies found the body about 12:20 a.m. at the intersection of Spruce and Leland streets in the Clifton community. Thomas died a short time later at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center.

Perry left the crime scene in Thomas' Nissan Sentra. The car was recovered hours later at a home in the city of Spartanburg. Deputies arrested Perry the following morning. During an interview with deputies, Perry said he and Thomas got into an argument while they were riding in her car together. When they neared their apartment home, she tried to drive to her mother's home. Thomas jumped out of the car and ran when he forced her to turn toward the home they had been sharing. Perry grabbed a pocket knife out of the door of the car and ran after Thomas. He stabbed her when he caught her.