



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY McMASTER
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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Sumter County Father And Son Plead Guilty In Dog Fighting Case

Columbia, S.C. – Attorney General Henry McMaster announced today that David Wright, Jr., 52, of 6659 James Street in Rembert, pleaded guilty on September 7, 2005, to one (1) count of Presence at an Animal Fight, a misdemeanor violation of §16-27-40, punishable to six (6) months imprisonment and/or a fine of \$500.

David Wright, III, 32, of 5407 Myrant Road in Rembert, pleaded guilty on September 7, 2005, to one (1) count of Animal Fighting, a felony violation of §16-27-30, punishable to five (5) years imprisonment and/or a fine of \$5,000.

On June 11, 2004, SLED agents and members of the Sumter County Sheriff's Department Narcotics Division executed a search warrant pertaining to dog fighting at the home of Kevin Lamont Loney, 27, of Rembert (See Release 6.8.2005: http://www.scattorneygeneral.com/newsroom/pdf/sumter_man.pdf). The search produced a videotape containing footage of dog fighting on property owned by Wright, III. A review of the videotape showed David Wright, Jr. and David Wright, III involved in dog fighting activity.

Judge Clifton Newman, presiding over the General Sessions Court of Sumter County, sentenced Wright, Jr. to six (6) months imprisonment and a \$200 fine, suspended to six (6) months probation. Wright, Jr. was ordered to pay \$500 to the public defender fund, and forty (40) hours of public service employment at the Sumter County Dog Pound.

Wright, III was sentenced to five (5) years imprisonment and a \$200 fine, suspended to one (1) year probation. Wright, III was ordered to pay \$500 to the public defender fund, and forty (40) hours of public service employment at the Sumter County Dog Pound.

This case was investigated by the State Law Enforcement Division, the Sumter County Sheriff's Department Narcotics Division, and prosecuted by the Attorney General's Office.

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