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SPARTANBURG MAN RECEIVES 25-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE FOR CHILD MOLESTATION

A Spartanburg County man received a 25-year prison sentence today after he admitted to sexually assaulting a 4-year-old child.

Santos Delarosa, 57, pleaded guilty to first-degree criminal sexual conduct with a minor before retired Supreme Court Justice E.C. Burnett III. He will serve 85 percent of the prison sentence before he is eligible for release.

The victim's mother reported the crime to the Sheriff's Office on April 22, 2007. She said she left the child in the care of a family member who allowed Delarosa to have access to her. The victim described the assault in detail during a meeting with a forensic interviewer from the Children's Advocacy Center. Delarosa denied any criminal wrongdoing in his initial interview with sheriff's deputies.

Delarosa's prior criminal record includes an aggravated criminal sexual battery conviction out of Virginia where he served 1-year behind bars. His South Carolina criminal record includes convictions for assault and battery with intent to kill and second-degree burglary.

"Santos Delarosa is a sexual predator," Assistant Solicitor Tony Leibert said. "He is the type of person that prison is made for"

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

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