



PRESS NOTICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TAYLORS MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IN COMFORT INN ARSON

Columbia, South Carolina ---- United States Attorney REGINALD I.

LLOYD stated today that **ERIC PRESTON HANS**, age 35, of Taylors, South Carolina, was sentenced to life in prison in the arson of the Comfort Inn and Suites, 831 Congaree Road in Greenville. United States District Judge Henry M. Herlong, Jr., imposed the sentence. Under federal law, Hans is ineligible for parole and will spend the rest of his life in prison.

Hans was convicted by a federal jury of setting a fire at the hotel during the early morning hours of January 25, 2004. Six people, including an infant, died as a result of the fire, and eleven people suffered serious injuries.

The case was investigated by agents of the Greenville County Sheriff's Office, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

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