



South Carolina Department of Corrections

Aug. 31, 2020

For immediate release

Contact: Chrysti Shain, (803) 413-8206

Shain.Chrysti@doc.sc.gov

COLUMBIA, S.C. – The S.C. Department of Corrections Police Services released the arrest warrant today for Avery Noah Thompson, a correctional officer at McCormick Correctional Institution.

Thompson, 24, of Abbeville, is charged with trafficking methamphetamines greater than 28 grams, possession with intent to distribute marijuana and misconduct in office. The charges against him involve bringing multiple packages of meth, marijuana and contraband cell phones into the prison. He was fired after his arrest.

The S.C. Department of Corrections reminds members of the public that after an arrest, the burden of proof is on the state to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt within a court of law.

Copies of the arrest warrants are attached.

ARREST WARRANT

2020A3510100238

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

McCormick

THE STATE
against

Avery Noah Thompson

Address:

Phone: SSN: Weight: 290

Sex: M Race: B Height: 6 DL State: SC DL #: DOB: Agency ORI #: SC040095C

Prosecuting Agency: S C Department Of Corrections Division

Prosecuting Officer: Roy E Cox, III - S00146

Offense: Drugs / Trafficking in meth. or cocaine base - 28 g

or more, but less than 100 g - 1st offense

Offense Code: 0392

Code/Ordinance Sec: 44-53-0375(C)(2)(a)

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the

☐ County/ ☐ Municipality of

The accused

is to be arrested and brought before me to be

dealt with according to the law.

(L.S.)

Signature of Judge

Date:

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to

defendant Avery Thompson

on August 30, 2020

Signature of Constable or Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

McCormick Magistrate
211 West Augusta Street, Extension
Post Office Box 1116
McCormick, SC 29835

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

McCormick

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

Form Approved by
S.C. Attorney General
April 21, 2003
SCCA 518

Personally appeared before me the affiant Roy E Cox, III who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Avery Noah Thompson

did within this county and state on or about 8/29/2020

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of McCormick

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Drugs / Trafficking in meth. or cocaine base - 28 g or more, but less than 100 g - 1st offense

I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

That on August 29, 2020, in the county of McCormick, one Avery Noah Thompson did commit the crime of Drugs / Trafficking in meth. or cocaine base - 28 g or more, but less than 100 g - 1st offense in that he did possess and attempt to enter the McCormick Correctional Facility with methamphetamine. See attached affidavit. Incident investigated by Ofc. R. Cox of the SCDOC.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

McCormick

Affiant's Address P.O. Box 21787

Columbia, SC 29221-1787

Affiant's Telephone

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that

on or about 8/29/2020

defendant Avery Noah Thompson

did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of McCormick) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Drugs / Trafficking in meth. or cocaine base - 28 g or more, but less than 100 g - 1st offense

Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable

Sworn to and subscribed before me

on 8/30/2020

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.)

John Cliff Long

Judge Code: 7261

Judge's Address P. O. Box 1116

McCormick, SC 29835-

Judge's Telephone (864)-85-2-23 x 16

Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

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South Carolina Department of Corrections
Police Services
Arrest Warrant Affidavit Sheet

Date of Offense: August 29, 2020	Case Number: 34-2020-055
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Defendant Name: Avery Noah Thompson	Address: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
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Race: B	Sex: M	Height: 6'00	Weight: 275	Date of Birth: [REDACTED]	Social Security #: [REDACTED]	Driver's License #: [REDACTED]	SCDC #: 064262
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Affiant Name: Roy Cox	Affiant Address: 4444 Broad River Rd Columbia, S.C. 29221	Telephone: (803)896-5214
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Victim Name	Victim Address	Telephone:

Witness Name	Witness Address	Telephone:

Description of Offense Drugs / Trafficking in meth. or cocaine base - 28 g or more, but less than 100 g - 1st offense	Statute, Ordinance, or CDR Code: 44-53-0375(C)(2)(a) or 0392
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Affidavit:

Agent Cox states that Sgt. Avery Thompson did in the County of McCormick, South Carolina on August 29, 2020, commit the offense of Trafficking Methamphetamines. The defendant, a sworn Correctional Officer with the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC), did willfully, knowingly and unlawfully attempt to conceal and introduce multiple packages containing a white crystal-like substance that field tested positive for methamphetamines into a SCDC facility. This incident occurred at McCormick Correctional Institution, located at 386 Redemption Way, McCormick, S.C. 29835. Probable cause is based on the statements of SCDC staff and physical evidence recovered from the incident location.

Signature of Judge (If Applicable) [Signature]	Affiant Signature Roy Cox
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Sworn to and ascribed before me this 30 day of August, 2020

ARREST WARRANT

2020A3510100239

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

McCormick

THE STATE
against

Avery Noah Thompson

Address:

Phone: _____ SSN: _____

Sex: M Race: B Height: 6 Weight: 290DL State: SC DL #: _____DOB: _____ Agency ORI #: SC040095CProsecuting Agency: S C Department Of Corrections DivisionProsecuting Officer: Roy E Cox, III - S00146Offense: Drugs / Manuf., poss. of other sub. in Sch. I, II, III
or flunitrazepam or analogue, w.i.t.d. - 1st offenseOffense Code: 0186Code/Ordinance Sec: 44-53-0370(b)(2)

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the

☐ County/ ☐ Municipality ofThe accused
is to be arrested and brought before me to be
dealt with according to the law.

(L.S.)

Signature of Judge

Date:

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to

defendant Avery Thompsonon August 30, 2020Roy Cox
Signature of Probation/Parole Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

McCormick Magistrate
211 West Augusta Street, Extension
Post Office Box 1116
McCormick, SC 29835

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

McCormick

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

Form Approved by
S.C. Attorney General
April 21, 2003
SCCA 518Personally appeared before me the affiant Roy E Cox, III whobeing duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Avery Noah Thompsondid within this county and state on or about 8/29/2020 violate the criminal laws of theState of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of McCormick)

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Drugs / Manuf., poss. of other sub. in Sch. I, II, III or flunitrazepam or analogue, w.i.t.d. - 1st offenseI further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit
the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:That on August 29, 2020 in the city/county of McCormick, one Avery Noah Thompson did aid, abet, attempt or conspire to
manufacture, distribute, dispense, deliver, purchase and or possess Marijuana, with the intent to manufacture, distribute, dispense,
deliver, or purchase Marijuana, a controlled substance or a controlled substance analogue classified in Schedule I (b) and (c) which
is a narcotic drug or lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) or in Schedule II which is a narcotic drug. Incident investigated by Ofc. R.
Cox of the SCDOC.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

McCormick

Affiant's Address P.O. Box 21787
Columbia, SC 29221-1787

Affiant's Telephone _____

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that

on or about 8/29/2020 defendant Avery Noah Thompson

did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of McCormick) as set forth below:DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Drugs / Manuf., poss. of other sub. in Sch. I, II, III or flunitrazepam or analogue, w.i.t.d. - 1st offenseHaving found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or
her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as
soon thereafter as is practicable

Sworn to and subscribed before me

on 8/30/2020Judge's Address P. O. Box 1116McCormick, SC 29835-Judge's Telephone (864)-85-2-23 x 16Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

Signature of Issuing Judge

John Cliff Long

Judge Code: 7261

(L.S.)

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South Carolina Department of Corrections
Police Services
Arrest Warrant Affidavit Sheet

Date of Offense: August 29, 2020	Case Number: 34-2020-055
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Defendant Name: Avery Noah Thompson	Address: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
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Race: B	Sex: M	Height: 6'00	Weight: 275	Date of Birth: [REDACTED]	Social Security #: [REDACTED]	Driver's License #: [REDACTED]	SCDC #: 064262
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Affiant Name: Roy Cox	Affiant Address: 4444 Broad River Rd Columbia, S.C. 29221	Telephone: (803)896-5214
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Victim Name	Victim Address	Telephone:

Witness Name	Witness Address	Telephone:

Description of Offense Possession with Intent to Distribute Marijuana	Statute, Ordinance, or CDR Code: 44-53-0370(b)(2) or 0186
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Affidavit:

Agent Cox states that Sgt. Avery Thompson did in the County of McCormick, South Carolina on August 29, 2020, commit the offense of Possession with Intent to Distribute Marijuana. The defendant, a sworn Correctional Officer with the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC), did willfully, knowingly and unlawfully attempt to conceal and introduce multiple packages containing a green leafy substance believed to be marijuana into a SCDC facility. This incident occurred at McCormick Correctional Institution, located at 386 Redemption Way, McCormick, S.C. 29835. Probable cause is based on the statements of SCDC staff and physical evidence recovered from the incident location.

Signature of Judge (If Applicable) [Signature]	Affiant Signature Roy Cox
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Sworn to and ascribed before me this 30 day of August, 2020

ARREST WARRANT
2020A3510100240
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
County/ Municipality of
McCormick
THE STATE
against
Avery Noah Thompson
Address:
Phone: SSN:
Sex: M Race: B Height: 6 Weight: 290
DL State: SC DL #:
DOB: Agency ORI #: SC040095C
Prosecuting Agency: S C Department Of Corrections Division
Prosecuting Officer: Roy E Cox, III - S00146
Offense: Public / Public official, misconduct in office
Offense Code: 0115
Code/Ordinance Sec: 08-01-0080
This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the
County/ Municipality of . The accused
is to be arrested and brought before me to be
dealt with according to the law.

(L.S.)
Signature of Judge
Date:

RETURN
A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to
defendant Avery Thompson
on August 30, 2020
Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:
McCormick Magistrate
211 West Augusta Street, Extension
Post Office Box 1116
McCormick, SC 29835

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
County/ Municipality of)
McCormick)
AFFIDAVIT
Personally appeared before me the affiant Roy E Cox, III who
being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Avery Noah Thompson
did within this county and state on or about 8/29/2020 violate the criminal laws of the
State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of McCormick)
in the following particulars:
DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Public / Public official, misconduct in office

I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit
the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

That on August 29, 2020, in the county of McCormick, one Avery Noah Thompson did commit the crime of Public / Public official,
misconduct in office that he did (See attached affidavit.) Incident investigated by Ofc. R. Cox of the SCDOC.

Signature of Affiant Roy Cox
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
County/ Municipality of)
McCormick)
Affiant's Address P.O. Box 21787
Columbia, SC 29221-1787
Affiant's Telephone

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that
on or about 8/29/2020 defendant Avery Noah Thompson
did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of
County/ Municipality of McCormick) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Public / Public official, misconduct in office

Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or
her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as
soon thereafter as is practicable
Sworn to and subscribed before me)

on 8/30/2020)
(L.S.))
Judge's Address P. O. Box 1116
McCormick, SC 29835-
Judge's Telephone (864)-85-2-23 x 16
Issuing Court: [X] Magistrate [] Municipal [] Circuit

Signature of Issuing Judge
John Cliff Long
Judge Code: 7261

**South Carolina Department of Corrections
Police Services
Arrest Warrant Affidavit Sheet**

Date of Offense: August 29, 2020	Case Number: 34-2020-055
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Defendant Name: Avery Noah Thompson	Address: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
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Race: B	Sex: M	Height: 6'00	Weight: 275	Date of Birth: [REDACTED]	Social Security #: [REDACTED]	Driver's License #: [REDACTED]	SCDC #: 064262
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Affiant Name: Roy Cox	Affiant Address: 4444 Broad River Rd Columbia, S.C. 29221	Telephone: (803)896-5214
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Victim Name	Victim Address	Telephone:

Witness Name	Witness Address	Telephone:

Description of Offense Misconduct in Office	Statute, Ordinance, or CDR Code: 08-01-80 or 115
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Affidavit:

Agent Cox states that Sgt. Avery Thompson did in the County of McCormick, South Carolina on August 29, 2020, commit the offense of Misconduct in Office. The defendant, a sworn Correctional Officer with the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC), did willfully, dishonestly and with corrupt intent, engaged in misconduct by attempting to introduce a crystal-like substance that field tested positive for methamphetamines, a green leafy substance believed to be marijuana, tobacco, cellular telephones and cell phone accessories into a SCDC facility. This incident occurred at McCormick Correctional Institution, located at 386 Redemption Way, McCormick, S.C. 29835. Probable cause is based on the statements of SCDC staff and physical evidence recovered from the incident location.

Signature of Judge (If Applicable) [Signature]	Affiant Signature Roy Cox
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Sworn to and ascribed before me this 30 day of August, 2020