

South Carolina Department of Corrections

Feb. 27, 2024
For immediate release
Contact: Chrysti Shain, (803) 413-8206
Shain.Chrysti@doc.sc.gov

COLUMBIA, S.C. – The SCDC Inspector General released the arrest warrants today for a Moore man on contraband charges involving a drone at Ridgeland Correctional Institution.

Christopher James Brannon, 39, is charged with providing prisoners with contraband, possession of marijuana with intent to distribute and criminal conspiracy.

Brannon is charged with driving another man to a spot near Ridgeland CI for the purpose of flying a drone containing contraband onto the prison yard. That man was arrested in October.

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		STATE OF SOU	TH CAROLINA)		ORIGINAL	Form Approved by S.C. Attorney General		
2024A2	720200022	County/ Ridgeland	X Municipality of)	AFFIDAVIT		April 21, 2003 SCCA 518		
STATE OF	SOUTH CAROLINA Municipality of	Personally app	eared before me the affian	West of the second seco	ling		who		
County	X Municipality of		om deposes and says that	OIM IO	opher James Brannon				
Ridgeland			county and state on or abou	10.20.2025		violate the	criminal laws of the		
	THE STATE 06-2023-0		Carolina (or ordinance of	County/	Municipality of Ridgel	and)		
	against				1				
Christopher James Branno	on	— DESCRIPTION	or offense. Prisoners / C	ontraband, possessior	n by prisoner, furnishing or at	tempt to furnish priso	ner with		
Address:			,						
		I further stat	e that there is probable	cause to believe	that the defendant name	ed above did comr	nit		
Phone:	SSN:		forth and that probable ca	ause is based on the	e following facts:				
Sex: M Race: B DL State: SC DL#:	Height: 5 11 Weight: 1:	October 26, 2	023, in the County of Jasper	, Town of Ridgeland,	one Christopher James Brann	on, did commit the o	ffense of		
DL State: SC DL#:	Agency UKI #: SC040095C	Contraband/P	ossession attempt to Furnish	Contraband to a Pris	soner. Defendant did conspire nelude tobacco and Marijuana	with a co-defendant	to fly an (AI) or		
	epartment Of Corrections Divisi				19936. Defendant did commur				
	rd M Darling - S00238	Carolina Depa	artment of Corrections (SCD	OC) inmates about intr	roducing the packages of cont	raband and driving hi	is co-defendant to		
	aband, possession by prisoner,			-defendant could use	the (AI) to fly the contraband	into RCI. Affiant, wi	tnesses and others		
	mpt to furnish prisoner with	to prove same							
Offense Code: 0074 Code/Ordinance Sec: 24-03	0050	_			0 1/2	_			
No section and an artist of the section of the sect		_	Signature of Affia	ant X	1000				
	ED FOR SERVICE in the	STATE OF SOL	STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA						
County/ Municip	. The accus	ed County/	X Municipality of) Affiant's Addres	P.O. Box 21787 Columbia, SC 29221-17	787			
is to be arrested and	brought before me to be	Ridgeland) Affiant's Telepho		707			
dealt with according to the	law.	8							
	(L	.S.)		ARRES ¹	T WARRANT		•		
Signal	iture of Judge								
Date:		TO ANY LAW			CIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE		and the second second		
		=	It appearing f	from the above at	ffidavit that there are	reasonable grounds	to believe that		
	RETURN	on or about	10/26/2023	defendant C	Christopher James Brannon	Z 45 Z 45 Z			
1 1	rant was delivered to	did violate the	e criminal laws of the State			. Call balance			
defendant on 2 - 2 C -	phe Brannen	County/	X Municipality of R	Ridgeland) a	s set forth below:			
on 2-26-	2029	DESCRIPTION	OF OFFENSE: Prisoners / C	Contraband, possessio	on by prisoner, furnishing or a	ttempt to furnish prise	oner with		
A.		Having found n	robable cause and the above affia	ant having sworn before m	ne, you are empowered and directed	d to arrest the said defen	dant and bring him or		
Signature of Con	nstable/Law Enforcement Omcer	her before me f	orthwith to be dealt with according	to law. A copy of this Arr	est Warrant shall be delivered to the	e defendant at the time of	f its execution, or as		
			as is practicable ubscribed before me)					
RETURN WARRANT TO:		on 2/21/202	4///) Judge's Addres	ss Post Office Box 1119				
General Sessions 265 Russell Street			L.	.S.)	Ridgeland, SC 29936-				
Po Box 248		Signature of Issuing		Judge's Telepho					
Ridgeland, SC 29936	50248		oggins (Ridgeland)) Issuing Co	ourt: Magistrate	X Municipal	Circuit		
ORIGINAL	ORIGINAL	Judge Code: ORIGINAL	6563 ORIGINAL	ORIGINA			ORIGINAL		
OHIOHAL	UNIONAL								

ARREST	T WARRANT	STATE OF SOUT	/			ORIGINAL	Form Approved by S.C. Attorney General April 21, 2003
2024A27	720200020	County/ Ridgeland	X Municipality of)	AF	FFIDAVIT		SCCA 518
STATE OF S	SOUTH CAROLINA		eared before me the affiant	Richard M Darling			who
County/	X Municipality of		orn deposes and says that defi				
Ridgeland			anish, and the	10/26/2023	r James Brannon	violate the	criminal laws of the
					nicipality of Ridge)
	HE STATE 06-2023-86		The second second	X	Ridge	ianu	
Christopher James Brannon	against n	DESCRIPTION	OF OFFENSE: Drugs / Manuf., p	oss, of other sub in S	Sch. I. III or flunitraz	enam or analogue wit	t d - 1st offense
-		•	, ,	out out out but. In b	icii. i, ii, iii oi mamuaz	cpain of analogue, w.i	.d. 13t offense
Address:	***************************************						
		. I further state	e that there is probable ca	use to believe that	t the defendant see	and above did somm	sia .
Phone:	SSN:	the crime set	forth and that probable cause	is based on the follower	lowing facts:	ned above did comm	ж
Sex: M Race: B DL State: SC DL#:	Height: 5 11 vveignt: 13	/	er 26, 2023 in the County of Jas			nes Brannon did aid al	net attempt or
	Access 001# 000400050	- conspire to ma	mulacture, distribute, dispense,	deliver, purchase and	or possess marijuana w	ith the intent to manuf	acture distribute
	Agency ORI #. SC040095C epartment Of Corrections Divisio	_ uispelise, dell'	ver, or purchase marijuana. Defe	ndant and co-defendar	nt did conspire through	mutual agreement and	actions to
	d M Darling - S00238	uisuibute unit	iwith contraband to include Mar	ijuana into the Ridgel	and Correctional Institu	tion located at 5 Correct	ctional Rd in
	oss. of other sub. in Sch. I, II, III	Ridgeland for	2 29936. Defendant did drop off the purpose of using a (AI) don	a co-conspirator in the	e area of the solar panel	field adjacent to RCI v	vithin the Town of
	r analogue, w.i.t.d 1st offense		which field tested presumptive	for marijuana into RC	I Probable cause is bas	contraband to include 4	19 grams of green
Offense Code: 70186	<u> </u>	miranda. Affi	ant, witnesses and others to prov	e same.	4	ed on detendant's sen a	diffission under
Code/Ordinance Sec: 44-53-0	0370(b)(2)	-		\bigcirc 0	~ / -		
This warrant is CERTIFIE	D FOR SERVICE in the		Signature of Affiant	(X) K.	DON		
County/ Municipa		STATE OF SOL	JTH CAROLINA				
	. The accuse	County/	X Municipality of)	P.O. Box 21787		
is to be arrested and	brought before me to be	Ridgeland			Columbia, SC/29221-	1787	
dealt with according to the	law.			Affiant's Telephone			
	(L.S	5.)					
Signatur	re of Judge			ARREST W	ARRANT		
Date:	•	TO ANY LAW	ENEODOEMENT OFFICED OF THE	C CTATE OD MUNICIPA			
		_	ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THI It appearing from		W. A	10000000000000000000000000000000000000	W W W W
	RETURN	_	n appearing noin	the above allicat	vit triat there are	reasonable grounds	to believe that
A copy of this arrest warran	nt was delivered to	on or about	10/26/2023	defendant <u>Chris</u>	stopher James Branno	n	
defendant Christon	her James Brannon		e criminal laws of the State of		rdinance of		
on _ 2- 26-	2024	County/	X Municipality of Ridg	geland)	as set forth below:	
0		DESCRIPTIO	N OF OFFENSE: Drugs / Manuf.	, poss. of other sub. in	Sch. I, II, III or flunitra	azepam or analogue, w.	i.t.d 1st offense
<i>\$</i> \(\). (
Signature of Cons	stable/Law Enforcement Officer	ner before me	probable cause and the above affiant to forthwith to be dealt with according to	law. A copy of this Arrest \	Warrant shall be delivered to	of the defendant at the time of	dant and bring him or of its execution, or as
		soon thereafte	r as is practicable subscribed before me)			
RETURN WARRANT TO:	-	on 2/21/20)			
General Sessions		12	7	/ Judge's Address	Post Office Box 11		
265 Russell Street		Signature of Issui	(L.S.	/	Ridgeland, SC 2993	36-	
Po Box 248	60248		coggins (Ridgeland)	Judge's Telephone	(843)726-7500	-,	
Ridgeland, SC 29936	UUZ48	Judge Code:	6563) Issuing Court:	: Magistrate	X Municipal	Circuit
ORIGINAL	ORIGINAL	ORIGINAL	ORIGINAL	ORIGINAL	ORIG	SINAL	ORIGINAL

ARREST WARRANT		STATE OF SOU	Name and the second sec)			ORIGINAL	Form Approved by S.C. Attorney General
0004407	20200021	County/	X Municipality of)	Α	FFIDAVIT		April 21, 2003 SCCA 518
2024A21	20200021	Ridgeland)				
	OUTH CAROLINA Municipality of		eared before me the a		hard M Darling			who
County/	X Municipality of		orn deposes and says		ant Christoph	er James Brannon		
Ridgeland	_		county and state on or		26/2023		violate the	e criminal laws of the
	22 2222 285		Carolina (or ordinance of	Cou	inty/ X Mu	inicipality of Ridgela	nd)
	STATE 06-2023-086	in the following						
Christopher James Brannon	gainst	DESCRIPTION	OF OFFENSE: Conspirate	cy / Crimina	al Conspiracy, Co	mmon Law conspiracy de	fined	
Christopher James Brainfon								
Address:								
Phone:	SSN:		e that there is prob forth and that probable	able cause cause is	to believe the	at the defendant name illowing facts:	d above did com	mit
	Height: 5 11 Weight: 137	That on Octob	per 26, 2023, in the Cour	nty of Jasner	Town of Ridgel	and, one Christopher Jame	S Brannon did com	mit the offense of
DL State: DL #:	_					eme to accomplish the unl		
DOB: Ag	gency ORI #: SC040095C					Rd in Ridgeland, SC 299		
Prosecuting Agency: S C Depa	artment Of Corrections Division	conspire thro	igh mutual agreement an	d actions to	distribute unlawf	ful drugs and contraband i	tems into RCI. Defe	ndant did drop off
	M Darling - S00238	co-conspirato	r in the area of the solar	panel field a	adjacent to RCI w	ithin the Town of Ridgela	nd, SC 29936 for the	e purpose of using
Offense: Conspiracy / Crimina	nal Conspiracy, Common Law					to include Marijuana into ed on defendant's self-adn		
conspiracy defined			others to prove same.	nended. Fro	vavie cause is vas	ed on defendant's sen-adi	iission under winan	da. Aman,
Offense Code: 0049		• With 63563 till	outers to prove sume.		0/			
Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-17-04	410	-	Signature of	Affiant /	N/ Kile			
This warrant is CERTIFIED	FOR SERVICE in the	STATE OF SOL	JTH CAROLINA		7	•		
County/ Municipality	ty of	County/	X Municipality of	1	Affiant's Address	P.O. Box 21787		
	. The accused			ś		Columbia, SC 29221-17	87	<u>, </u>
	rought before me to be	Ridgeland		_ 1	Affiant's Telephone			<u> </u>
dealt with according to the law	W.							
	(L.S.)			ARREST W	ARRANT		
Signature o	of Judge							
Date:		TO ANY LAW	ENFORCEMENT OFFICER			LITY OR ANY CONSTABLE		T T P 10-1
		-	It appearing	from th	e above affidav	rit that there are	reasonable grounds	s to believe that
RI	ETURN	on or about	10/26/2023		defendant Chris	stopher James Brannon		
A copy of this arrest warrant	^		e criminal laws of the S					
defendant Christopher	Tames Branner	_ County/	X Municipality of	Ridgelar			s set forth below:	
on 2: 26,-3	24	- DESCRIPTION	N OF OFFENSE: Conspir	acy / Crimir	al Conspiracy Co	ommon Law conspiracy de	efined	
n /	7 -							
-K-6/		Having found	probable cause and the above	affiant having	sworn before me, yo	ou are empowered and directed Varrant shall be delivered to the	I to arrest the said defer	ndant and bring him or
Signature of Consta	able/Law Enforcement Officer	_ soon thereafte	r as is practicable	ording to law. A	A copy of this Arrest v	variant shall be delivered to the	s defendant at the time	or its excoulion, or do
RETURN WARRANT TO:			subscribed before me)				
General Sessions		on 2/21/202	24	_)	Judge's Address	Post Office Box 1119		
265 Russell Street		91	- (/	(L.S.)		Ridgeland, SC 29936-	1	
Po Box 248		Signature of Issui		_ `	Judge's Telephone	(843)726-7500		
Ridgeland, SC 299360	0248		eoggins (Ridgeland))	Issuing Court:	Magistrate	X Municipal	Circuit
10		Judge Code:	6563 ORIGINAL	- ,	ORIGINAL	ORIGIN	-	ORIGINAL
ORIGINAL	ORIGINAL	ORIGINAL	URIGINAL		UNIGINAL	ORIGIN	A-	CITIONAL