



## South Carolina Department of Corrections

Oct. 15, 2024

For immediate release

Contact: Chrysti Shain, (803) 413-8206

[Shain.Chrysti@doc.sc.gov](mailto:Shain.Chrysti@doc.sc.gov)

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** – The SCDC Inspector General released the arrest warrants today for a Sumter man on charges involving contraband at Broad River Correctional Institution.

Rodney C. Butler, 34, is charged with providing contraband to an inmate and criminal conspiracy.

Butler's charges involve flying a drone carrying contraband onto the Broad River prison yard. He coordinated the drop location and payment through text messages to multiple inmates who were using illegal contraband cellphones.

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.

Thank you to Richland County Sheriff's Department for its assistance in this case.

ARREST WARRANT

2024A4010500261

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/  Municipality of

Richland / Dutch Fork Magistrate

THE STATE 062024036  
against

Rodney C Butler

Address: [Redacted]

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 10 Weight: 168

DL State: \_\_\_\_\_ DL #: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency ORI #: SC040095C

Prosecuting Agency: S C D C Office Of The Inspector Genera

Prosecuting Officer: Jerome C Trapp - S03906

Offense: Prisoners / Contraband, possession by prisoner, furnishing or attempt to furnish prisoner with

Offense Code: 0074

Code/Ordinance Sec: 24-03-0950

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 10-15-2024

on Rodney Butler

Jerome C Trapp  
Signature of [Judge/Officer]

RETURN WARRANT TO:

Richland County General Sessions  
1701 Main Street  
P O Box 192  
Columbia, SC 29202

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

County/  Municipality of )

Richland / Dutch Fork Magistrate )

Personally appeared before me the affiant Jerome C Trapp who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Rodney C Butler

did within this county and state on or about 4/16/2024 violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of  County/  Municipality of Richland / Dutch Fork Magistrate)

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Prisoners / Contraband, possession by prisoner, furnishing or attempt to furnish prisoner with

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:

On April 16, 2024, the Defendant Rodney Butler did commit the offense of Prisoners/Contraband, Possession by Prisoner or attempt to furnish contraband. Said offense having occurred at Broad River Correctional Institution (BRCI) 4444 Broad River Road, in the County of Richland, State of South Carolina. The Defendant was stopped by Richland County Deputies after a drone alert at the BRCI. During the search of the vehicle a DJI Inspire 2 was found in the vehicle matching the drone type from the alert. An analysis of the drone provided that the drone did fly over the prison on the incident date. Probable cause is based on text messages between the Defendant and multiple SCDC inmates and data from a seized drone.

Signature of Affiant

[Signature]  
Affiant's Address P.O. Box 21787  
Columbia, SC 29221-1787  
Affiant's Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

County/  Municipality of )

Richland / Dutch Fork Magistrate )

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 4/16/2024 defendant Rodney C Butler

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

County/  Municipality of Richland / Dutch Fork Magistrate) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Prisoners / Contraband, possession by prisoner, furnishing or attempt to furnish prisoner with

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 9/26/2024 )

[Signature] )

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.) )

Michael David Scott )

Judge Code: 7397 )

Judge's Address Dutch Fork District

Columbia, SC 29210-

Judge's Telephone (803)576-2540

Issuing Court:  Magistrate  Municipal  Circuit

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

ARREST WARRANT

2024A4010500260

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Richland / Dutch Fork Magistrate

THE STATE

062024036

against

Rodney C Butler

Address: [Redacted]

Phone: [Redacted] SSN: [Redacted]

Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 10 Weight: 168

DL State: [Redacted] DL #: [Redacted]

DOB: [Redacted] Agency ORI #: SC040095C

Prosecuting Agency: S C D C Office Of The Inspector Genera

Prosecuting Officer: Jerome C Trapp - S03906

Offense: Conspiracy / Criminal Conspiracy, Common Law conspiracy defined

Offense Code: 0049

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-17-0410

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

on 16-15-2024 Rodney Butler

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

Richland County General Sessions
1701 Main Street
P O Box 192
Columbia, SC 29202

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Richland / Dutch Fork Magistrate

Personally appeared before me the affiant

Jerome C Trapp

who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant

Rodney C Butler

did within this county and state on or about

4/16/2024

violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Richland / Dutch Fork Magistrate

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Conspiracy / Criminal Conspiracy, Common Law conspiracy defined

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:

On April 16, 2024, the Defendant Rodney Butler did commit the offense of Criminal Conspiracy. Said offense having occurred at Broad River Correctional Institution (BRCI) 4444 Broad River Road, in the County of Richland, State of South Carolina. The defendant utilized a cellphone to organize the introduction of contraband into BRCI, provided a location where the contraband into BRCI, provided a location where the contraband was to be picked up, details of what the package contained, details of where the contraband would be left for inmates to retrieve it and organized the payment to another individual for following instructions for the introduction of the contraband. Probable cause is based on text messages between the Defendant and multiple SCDC inmates and data from a seized drone.

Signature of Affiant

[Handwritten Signature]

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Richland / Dutch Fork Magistrate

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 4/16/2024

defendant Rodney C Butler

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

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Richland / Dutch Fork Magistrate

) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Conspiracy / Criminal Conspiracy, Common Law conspiracy defined

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 9/26/2024

(L.S.)

Signature of Issuing Judge Michael David Scott

Judge Code: 7397

Judge's Address Dutch Fork District

Columbia, SC 29210-

Judge's Telephone (803)576-2540

Issuing Court: [X] Magistrate [ ] Municipal [ ] Circuit

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

AFFIDAVIT