



South Carolina Department of Corrections

Dec. 6, 2019
For immediate release
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COLUMBIA, S.C. – The S.C. Department of Corrections Police Services released the arrest warrant today for Thaddeus Dewitt Smith, a correctional officer at Ridgeland Correctional Institution.

Smith, 25, from Ridgeland, is charged with misconduct in office. His charges involve opening a cell door and allowing an inmate to exit with the intention of having a sexual encounter with the inmate.

The investigation is continuing, and Smith 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.

A copy of the arrest warrant is attached.

ARREST WARRANT

2019A2720200168

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of

Ridgeland

THE STATE

31-2019-158

against

Thaddeus Dewitt Smith

Address:

Phone: _____ SSN: _____
Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 9 Weight: 350DL State: SC DL #: _____DOB: _____ Agency ORI #: SC040095CProsecuting Agency: S C Department Of Corrections DivisionProsecuting Officer: Roosevelt L Jenkins - S00179Offense: Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasanceOffense Code: 0819Code/Ordinance Sec: 17-25-0030This 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 Thaddeus Dewitt Smith

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to

defendant

on

12-5-19 Sg + [Signature]
12-5-19
[Signature]
Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
265 Russell Street
Po Box 248
Ridgeland, SC 299360248

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of

Ridgeland

Personally appeared before me the affiant Roosevelt L Jenkins whobeing duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Thaddeus Dewitt Smithdid within this county and state on or about 11/22/2019

violate the criminal laws of the

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

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasanceI 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 November 22, 2019, in the County of Jasper, Town of Ridgeland, one Thaddeus Dewitt Smith did commit the crime of
Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance. Defendant while employed as sworn Correctional
Officer with South Carolina Department of Corrections located at 5 Correctional Rd. in Ridgeland South Carolina 29936 did
feloniously, willfully, dishonestly and with corrupt intent engage in misconduct in the form of Malfeasance, Misfeasance or
Nonfeasance, by committing acts in violation of his duty of good faith, honesty, and accountability of public trust as a State
Correctional Officer. Defendant while on duty at RCI unlocked a secured inmates cell door to allow the inmate to exit the cell for
the purpose of having a sexual encounter with Officer Smith. Officer Smith was found by another RCI Officer in a female restroom
in a compromising position with the inmate. Affiant, witnesses and to prove same.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of

Ridgeland

Affiant's Address P.O. Box 21787Columbia, 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 11/22/2019defendant Thaddeus Dewitt Smith

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

☐ County/ ☒ Municipality of Ridgeland) as set forth below:DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasanceHaving 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 meon 12/3/2019[Signature]
Signature of Issuing Judge
Thomas L. Scoggins (Ridgeland)Judge Code: 6563Judge's Address Post Office Box 1119Ridgeland, SC 29936-Judge's Telephone (843)726-7500

Issuing Court:

☐ Magistrate☒ Municipal☐ CircuitForm Approved by
S.C. Attorney General
April 21, 2003
SCCA 518

ORIGINAL

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

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