

South Carolina Department of Corrections

June 23, 2022 For immediate release Contact: Chrysti Shain, (803) 413-8206 <u>Shain.Chrysti@doc.sc.gov</u>

COLUMBIA, S.C. – The SCDC Office of Investigations and Intelligence released the arrest warrants today for an officer at Ridgeland Correctional Institution.

Maj. John Wiggins Jr., 46, of Early Branch, is charged with second-degree assault and battery, intimidation and two counts of misconduct in office. The charges against him involve the sexual molestation of a subordinate officer and an attempt to alter the chain of custody for evidence.

Wiggins was placed on leave without pay when the incident was reported, and he was fired after charges were filed.

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.

The case was investigated by the SCDC Office of Investigations and Intelligence in conjunction with the 14th Circuit Solicitor's office.

Copies of the arrest warrants are attached.

ARREST WARRANT	CRIGINAL STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA) ORIGINAL SCATTEOF SOUTH CAROLINA SCATTEOF SCATTEO	Personally appeared before me the affiant Julie L Swank	that defendant John W thout 5/2/2022	. State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ X municipeliny of in the following particulars:	DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Assault / Assault & Battery 2nd degree	entering of the defendant named above did commit	I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the deterioring fraction framed down on the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:	226 On May 2, 2022, in the County of Jasper, City of Ridgeland, one John Wiggins Jr. did commit the offense of Assault & Battery 2nd			times to stop and said no. Defendant Wiggins Jr. disregarded and proceeded to place his hand down the Victuri s shift, work many of the victim had the bra area and started to caress the victim's nipple. The Defendant was visibly received during the sexual assault and the victim had	to forcefully grab and push defendant Wiggins Jr. away. This being in violation of SC Statute 16-03-0600(D), 1970 as amended.	Signature of Affiant (V) Mulli J. Murge	E STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA) Affiant's Address P.O. Box 21787 Columbia. SC 29221-1787	Ridgeland Mitant's Telephone	(L.S.) ARREST WARRANT	TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY: TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY: TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:	defendent John Wiggins Ir	did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina County/ X Municipality of Ridgeland	DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Assault & Battery 2nd degree	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	Judge's Address	Submittee of its well 2006 Thomas Le Scoppins (Ridgeland)) Judge's Telephone (843)726-7500	Judge Code: 6563) Issuing Court: Aggistrate X Municipal
	VARRANT		X Municipality of	31-2022-059	inst			5 9 Weight:	ancy ORI #: SC040095C	thent Of Corrections Divi ank - S00551	attery 2nd degree		0(D)(1)	SERVICE	ight before me		agbu	URN		15:5	A	\$.48

ARREST WARRANT	STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA) AFFIDAVIT	ORIGINAL Scantoweary April 21, 2003 SCCA 518
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA		who
County/ X Municipality of	appeared before me the affiant Julic LS	
Ridgeland	did within this county and state on or about 5/2/2022	violate the criminal laws of the
THE STATE 31-2022-059	X Municipality of	Ridgeland
John Wiggins, Jr	DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Courts / Intimidation of court officials, jurors, or witnesses (after April 1, 1996)	cs (after April 1, 1996)
Address:		
SSN SSN	I further the crime	named above did commit
ate: SC DL#:		commit the offense of Intimidation of Court r with the rank of Major, employed by the
Prosecuting Agency: SCDepartment Of Corrections Division Prosecuting Officer: Julie L Swank - S00551	South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) at Ridgeland Correctional Institution (RCI) located at 5 Correctional Rd. III Ridgeland, SC 29936. While acting in a supervisory authority defendant forged the name of another officer on a chain of custody document for evidence. Defendant did. destroy and create a new chain of custody document for evidence with a different officer's	on (RCI) located at 5 Correctional Ku. III me of another officer on a chain of custody iment for evidence with a different officer's
/ Int es (;	name, whom he admittedly forged, and wrote in different times from that of the original. This act was done to impede and obstruct the investigation on the defendant for a sexual assault against another Correctional Officer. This being in violation of SC Statute	al. This act was done to impede and obstruct icer. This being in violation of SC Statute
Offense Code: 2451 Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-09-0340	16-09-0340(A)(2) code of laws as amended. Affiant, witnesses to prove the same.	
C	Signature of Affiant X Andre V	Am
y of The	STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA) Affiant's Address P.O. Box 21787 County/ X Municipality of) Affiant's Address P.O. Box 21787	1787
is to be arrested and brought before me to be dealt with according to the law.	Ridgeland) Affiant's Telephone	
(L.S.)	ARREST WARRANT	
Signature of Judge Date:	TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:	TABLE OF THIS COUNTY:
	. It appearing from the above affidavit that there	are reasonable grounds to believe that
 RETURN A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to 	5/ 2/2022 defendant	
defendant JoHN WIGHING R.	did violate the criminal laws of the state of south carolina (or ordinance of County/ [X] Municipality of Ridgeland) as set forth below:
	DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Courts / Intimidation of court officials, jurors, or witnesses (after April 1, 1996)	es (after April 1, 1996)
And Z. Mr Sonalure of Constable Law Endocement Officer	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	directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or ed to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as
RETURN WARRANT TO:		
General Sessions 265 Russell Street		9936-
Po Box 248 Ridgeland, SC 299360248	Thomas C. Scoggins (Ridgeland)) Judge's relephone (843)726-7500 Judge Code: 6563) Issuing Court: Adaptate	Minimized
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ORIGINAL Form Approved by a C. Altomay General Appl 31, 2003 SCCA 518 who	violate the criminal laws of the	Kidgeland sance, or nonfeasance	tt named above did commit	d commit the offense of Misconduct / ified and Sworn Correctional Officer with the at Ridgeland Correctional Institution (RCI)	he victim on the breast and buttocks. The victim receded to place his hand down the victim's shirt. visibly erected during the sexual assault and		21787 SC 29221-1787			ISTABLE OF THIS COUNTY: are reasonable grounds to believe that) as set forth below:	casance, or nonfeasance	and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or ivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as	0X 1119	. 29936-	e X Municipal Circuit ORIGINAL ORIGINAL	
y of) AFFIDAVIT) AFFIDAVIT) Julie L Swank	defendant John Wiggins, Jr t 5/ 2/2022	County/ X Municipality of curve country of the coun	probable cause to believe that the defendant banks cause is based on the following facts:	On May 2, 2022, in the County of Jasper, City of Ridgeland, one John Wiggins Jr. did commit the offense of Misconduct / On May 2, 2022, in the County of Jasper, City of Ridgeland, one John Wiggins Jr. did commit the offense of Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance. Defendant is a Certified and Sworn Correctional Officer with the Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance or nonfeasance. Defendant is a Certified and Sworn Correctional Officer with the rank of Major, employed by the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) at Ridgeland Correctional Institution (RCI).	located at 5 Correctional Rd. in Ridgeland, SC 29936. While acting in a supervisory authority detendant and commune an assaure and buttocks. The victim Battery 2nd degree against a subordinate Correctional Officer by sexually grabbing the victim on the breast and buttocks. The victim told the Defendant several times to stop and said no. Defendant disregarded and proceeded to place his hand down the victim's shirt, went inside the bra area, and started to caress the victim's nipple. The Defendant was visibly receted during the sexual assault and	the victim had to forcetulity grab and push the detendant's name away. Attriant is writtees to prove une servic	Affiant's Address P.O. Box Columbia,	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 groun	defendant <u>John Wiggins, Jr</u> he State of South Carolina (or ordinance of of Ridgeland	DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance	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 Socording 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 Socording 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 before me) Judge's Address Post Office Box 1119		Issuing Court: Magistrate IAL ORIGINAL 0	
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA County/ X Municipality of Ridgeland Personally anneared before me the	sworm deposes and is county and state		I further state that there is probable cause the crime set forth and that morbable cause			the victim had to forcefully grab a signatu signatu	STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA County/ X Municipality of	Ridgeland	(L.S.)	TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFF	on or about 5/ 2/2022 did violate the criminal laws of the County/ X Municipality of	DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Mis	Having found probable cause and the a her before me forthwith to be dealt with soon thereafter as is practicable Sworn to and subscribed before me	on 6/22/3022	1500	Judge Code: 6563 ORIGINAL ORIGINAL	
ARREST V 2A272 ATE OF SOL	County/ X Municipality of Ridgeland	THE STATE 31-2022-059 against John Wiggins, Jr	Address:	M Race:	Prosecuting Agency: S C Department Of Corrections Division Prosecuting Officer: Julie L Swank - S00551 Offense: Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance or nonfeasance	Offense Code: 0819 Code/Ordinance Sec: 17-25-0030	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.		Signature of Judge Date:	A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to defendant OHN $W16(f_1)N5$ JL .	on 6/22/22 4+ 15:29	Reference of Constable/Law Enlichcement Officer	RETURN WARRANT TO: General Sessions	265 Russell Street Po Box 248	Ridgeland, SC 299360248	ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL Form Approved by Schorens General Sc Attomay General Sc Attomay General April 21, 2003 SccA 518 SccA 518 who who violate the criminal laws of the difference of the scrate structure set of the scrate se	above did commit the offense of Misconduct / sworn Correctional Officer with the add Correctional Institution (RCI) ind Correctional Institution (RCI) forged the name of another officer on of custody document for evidence with f the original. This act was done to rectional Officer. The Affiant is	E OF THIS COUNTY: reasonable grounds to believe that as set forth below:	r nonfeasance to arrest the said defendant and bring him or a defendant at the time of its execution, or as a defendant at the time of its execution, or as A Municipal Circuit
AFFIDAVIT Julie L Swank tendant John Wiggins, Jr 5/ 2/2022 County/ X Municipality of Ridgeland county/ X Municipality of ridgeland	state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts. 2022, in the County of Jasper, City of Ridgeland, one John Wiggins Jr. did commit the offense of Misconduct / 2022, in the County of Jasper, City of Ridgeland, one John Wiggins Jr. did commit the offense of Misconduct / ajor, employed by the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) at Ridgeland Correctional Institution (RCI) ajor, employed by the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) at Ridgeland Correctional Institution (RCI) 5 Correctional Rd. in Ridgeland, SC 29936. Defendant admitted under Miranda he forged the name of another officer on custody document for evidence. Defendant destroyed and then created a new chain of custody document for evidence with tofficer's name, whom he admittedly forged, and wrote in different times from that of the original. This act was done to a dostruct the investigation on the defendant for a sexual assault against another Correctional Officer. The Affinat is prove the same. Signature of Affiant S OUTH CAROLINA W Municipality of Affiants Telephone d Mant's Telephone	ARREST WARRANT STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE O the above affidavit that there are re defendant <u>John Wiggins, Jr</u> outh Carolina (or ordinance of <u>Jand</u>) as	Induct in office, malfcasance, misfeasance, or n a swom before me, you are empowered and directed to. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the de Judge's Address <u>Post Office Box 1119</u> <u>Ridgeland, SC 29936-</u> Judge's Telephone <u>(843)726-7500</u> Issuing Court: <u>Magistrate X</u> ORIGINAL ORIGINAL
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA DRIGI Ounty/ X Municipality of) A F F I D A V I T A F F I D A V I T Ridgeland)) Personally appeared before me the affant Julie L Swank Julie L Swank Personally appeared before me the affant Julie L Swank Julie L Swank Vinin this county and state on or about S/2/2022 S/2/2022 Vinin this county and state on or about S/2/2022 County/ State of South Carolina (or ordinance of in the following particulars: County/ DeSCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfcasance, misfeasance, or nonfcasance	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 May 2, 2022, in the County of Jasper, City of Ridgeland, one John Wiggins Jr. did commit the offense of Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance. Defendant is a Certified and Sworn Correctional Officer with the rank of Major, employed by the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) at Ridgeland Correctional Institution (RCI) located at 5 Correctional Rd. in Ridgeland, SCDC 3036. Defendant distroyed and then created a new chain of custody document for evidence. In a chain of custody document for evidence. Defendant distroyed and then created a new chain of custody document for evidence with a different officer's name, whom he admitted under Miranda he forged the name of another officer on a different officer's name, whom he admitted under Miranda he forged the name of another officer on impede and obstruct the investigation on the defendant for a sexual assault against another Correctional Officer. The Affinat is witness to prove the same. Signature of Affiant Miant's Adverses Pounty Miant's Dounty Or ontyl Miant's Costing and Suctoreational Officer. The Affiant is signature of Affiant Miness to prove the same. P.O. Box 21787 Countyl Affiants Telephone Affiand Countbia, SC 29221-1787	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 groun on or about 5/2/2022 defendant John Wiggins, Jr did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County)) as set forth below:	DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfcasance, misfeasance, or nonfcasance Having found probable cause and the above affiant having swom before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or her forme for thim that the forme of its execution, or as some neerafted before me Having found probable cause and the above affiant having swom before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or her forme for thim that the forme of its execution, or as some neerafted before me Non the reading to law, A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as some neerafted before me Non to and subscribed before me) In 6/22/2022) Some to arrest the said defendant at the time of its execution, or as some neerafted before me In 6/22/2022) Judge's Address Post Office Box 1119 Thomas L: Scoggins (Ridgeland) (L.S.) Judge's Telephone (843)726-7500 Judge Code: 6563 Judge's Telephone Magistrate ORIGINAL ORIGINAL ORIGINAL
ARREST WARRANT 2022A2720200107 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA STATE STATE S1-2022-059 against ins, Jr	Phone: SSN: Sex: M Race: Height: 5 9 Weight: 226 DL State: SC DL #: Agency ORI #: 5 9 Weight: 226 DOB: Agency SC DL #: Agency ORI #: 5 9 Weight: 226 DOB: Agency SC DL #: Agency ORI #: 5 5 5 Prosecuting Agency SC Department Of Corrections Division 1ulie L Swank - S00551 5 5 Offense: Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance 6 6 6 Offense Code: 0819 0 5 5 5 Code/Ordinance Sec: 17-25-0030 7 7 7 Duny/ Municipality of The accused 1 7	Signature of Judge RETURN warrant was delivered to	DRIGINAL
ARRES ARRES 2022A2 STATE OF S STATE OF S STATE OF S STATE OF S Address: Address: Address:	Phone: Sex: M Race: Height: Sc DL State: SC DL #: Agency ORI DOB: SC DL #: Agency ORI Prosecuting Agency: SC Department (Prosecuting Officer: Julie L Swank - S Offense: Misconduct / Misconduct in misfeasance, or nonfeasance Offense Code: 0819 Offense Code: 0717-25-0030 This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR I County/ Municipality of is to be arrested and brought bi bi dealt with according to the law.	Date; Date; RETURN A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to defendant	RETURN WARRANT TO: General Sessions 265 Russell Street Po Box 248 Ridgeland, SC 299360248 ORIGINAL OR