



## South Carolina Department of Corrections

March 23, 2023

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 Columbia man on contraband charges involving inmates at Ridgeland Correctional Institution.

Brian Francis Williams Jr., 31, is charged with:

- Trafficking in methamphetamine/cocaine more than 100 grams.
- Trafficking in heroin more than 28 grams.
- Possession of marijuana with intent to distribute.
- Criminal conspiracy.
- Providing contraband to prisoners.

The charges involve operating a drone just off Interstate 95 near Ridgeland CI. Officers confiscated five pounds of a substance that tested positive for marijuana, about 100 grams of Fentanyl, 118 grams of meth, one drone, eight drone batteries and one drone controller.

At the time of his arrest, Williams [was out on bond on similar charges](#) from an incident at McCormick Correctional Institution in January 2023. His charges for that arrest include:

- Trafficking in methamphetamines more than 100 grams.
- Trafficking in crack/cocaine more than 100 grams.
- Possession of marijuana with intent to distribute.
- Criminal conspiracy.
- Providing contraband to prisoners.

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

2023A2710200090

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Jasper

THE STATE

06-2023-025

against

Brian Francis Williams, Jr

Address: [Redacted]

Phone: [Redacted] SSN: [Redacted]

Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 8 Weight: 160

DL State: SC DL #: [Redacted]

DOB: [Redacted] Agency ORI #: SC040095C

Prosecuting Agency: S C Department Of Corrections Division

Prosecuting Officer: William C Pruitt - S00534

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 Brian Francis Williams Jr

on 3-23-23

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

[Redacted]

RETURN WARRANT TO:

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

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Jasper

Personally appeared before me the affiant

William C Pruitt

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant

Brian Francis Williams, Jr

did within this county and state on or about

3/23/2023

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Jasper

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 March 23, 2023, the Defendant Brian Williams, did commit the offense of Conspiracy / Criminal Conspiracy, Common Law, in

that: The Defendant while located on I-95 Northbound between mile markers 21 and 22, while in proximity of Ridgeland

Correctional Institution, Ridgeland SC, 29936, did conspire with the purpose of committing an unlawful act by unlawful means with

an inmate at Ridgeland Correction Institution to introduce contraband into the facility via air controlled aerial device.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Jasper

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 3/23/2023 defendant Brian Francis Williams, Jr

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

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Jasper) 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 3/23/2023

[Redacted]

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.)

Rhonda Yvonne Edwards (Magistrate)

Judge Code: 7463

Judge's Address

Ridgeland, SC 29936-

Judge's Telephone (843)726-5800

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

ARREST WARRANT

2023A2710200091

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Jasper

THE STATE

06-2023-025

against

Brian Francis Williams, Jr

Address:

Phone: SSN:

Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 8 Weight: 160

DL State: SC DL #:

DOB: Agency ORI #: SC040095C

Prosecuting Agency: S C Department Of Corrections Division

Prosecuting Officer: William C Pruitt - S00534

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 Brian Francis Williams Jr on 3-23-23

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

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

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Jasper

Personally appeared before me the affiant William C Pruitt

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Brian Francis Williams, Jr

did within this county and state on or about 3/23/2023 violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Jasper)

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 March 23, 2023, the Defendant Brian Williams, did commit the offense of Prisoners / Contraband, possession by prisoner, furnishing or attempt to furnish prisoner with, in that: The Defendant while located on I-95 Northbound between mile markers 21 and 22, while in proximity of Ridgeland Correctional Institution, Ridgeland SC, 29936, during a lawful arrest was found to be in possession of approximately 100 grams of a white rock substance that field tested positive for fentanyl, approximately 118 grams of white rock substance field tested positive for methamphetamine, approximately 5 pounds of green leafy substance field tested positive for marijuana, 1 DJI Inspire II drone, 8 drone batteries, and 1 drone controller. These items are items that are deemed as contraband by the SCDC Director and published by him in a conspicuous place available to inmates and civilians at Ridgeland Correctional Institution.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Jasper

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 3/23/2023 defendant Brian Francis Williams, Jr

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

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Jasper) 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 3/23/2023

Signature of Issuing Judge Rhonda Yvonne Edwards (Magistrate)

Rhonda Yvonne Edwards (Magistrate)

Judge Code: 7463

Judge's Address

Ridgeland, SC 29936-

Judge's Telephone (843)726-5800

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

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AFFIDAVIT

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

ARREST WARRANT

2023A2710200092

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Jasper

THE STATE

06-2023-025

against

Brian Francis Williams, Jr

Address: [Redacted]

Phone: [Redacted] SSN: [Redacted] Sex: M Race: B Height: 5' 160 DL State: SC DL #: [Redacted] DOB: [Redacted] Agency ORI #: SC040095C

Prosecuting Agency: S C Department Of Corrections Division Prosecuting Officer: William C Pruitt - S00534

Offense: Drugs / Manuf., poss. of other sub. in Sch. I, II, III or flunitrazepam or analogue, w.i.t.d. - 1st offense

Offense Code: 0186 Code/Ordinance Sec: 44-53-0370(b)(2)

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 Brian Francis Williams Jr on 3-23-23

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

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

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ) [X] County/ [ ] Municipality of ) Jasper )

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

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

Personally appeared before me the affiant William C Pruitt who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Brian Francis Williams, Jr did within this county and state on or about 3/23/2023 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Jasper) 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 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:

On March 23, 2023, the Defendant Brian Williams, did commit the offense of Drugs / Manuf., poss. of other sub. in Sch. I, II, III or flunitrazepam or analogue, w.i.t.d. - 1st offense, in that: The Defendant while located on I-95 Northbound between mile markers 21 and 22, while in proximity of Ridgeland Correctional Institution, Ridgeland SC, 29936, during a lawful arrest was found to be in possession of approximately 5 pounds of a green leafy substance that field tested positive for marijuana.

Signature of Affiant

[Handwritten Signature]

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ) [X] County/ [ ] Municipality of ) Jasper )

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 3/23/2023 defendant Brian Francis Williams, Jr did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Jasper) 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 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 3/23/2023

Signature of Issuing Judge Rhonda Yvonne Edwards (Magistrate) Judge Code: 7463

Judge's Address Ridgeland, SC 29936- Judge's Telephone (843)726-5800

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

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ARREST WARRANT

2023A2710200093

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of Jasper

Jasper

THE STATE 06-2023-025

against

Brian Francis Williams, Jr

Address: [Redacted]

Phone: SSN: [Redacted]

Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 8 Weight: 160

DL State: SC DL #: [Redacted]

DOB: [Redacted] Agency ORI #: SC040095C

Prosecuting Agency: S C Department Of Corrections Division

Prosecuting Officer: William C Pruitt - S00534

Offense: Drugs / Trafficking in Heroin, morphine, etc., 28 g

or more

Offense Code: 0149

Code/Ordinance Sec: 44-53-0370(e)(3)(c)

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 Brian Francis Williams Jr

on 3-23-23

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

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

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of Jasper

Jasper

Personally appeared before me the affiant William C Pruitt who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Brian Francis Williams, Jr

did within this county and state on or about 3/23/2023 violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Jasper)

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Drugs / Trafficking in Heroin, morphine, etc., 28 g or more

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 March 23, 2023, the Defendant Brian Williams, did commit the offense of Drugs / Trafficking in Heroin, morphine, etc., 28 g or more, in that: The Defendant while located on I-95 Northbound between mile markers 21 and 22, while in proximity of Ridgeland Correctional Institution, Ridgeland SC, 29936, during a lawful arrest was found to be in possession of approximately 100 grams of a white rock substance that field tested positive for fentanyl.

Signature of Affiant

[Handwritten Signature]

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of Jasper

Jasper

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 3/23/2023 defendant Brian Francis Williams, Jr

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

County/ Municipality of Jasper) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Drugs / Trafficking in Heroin, morphine, etc., 28 g or more

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 3/23/2023

Signature of Issuing Judge

Rhonda Yvonne Edwards (Magistrate)

Judge Code: 7463

Judge's Address

Ridgeland, SC 29936-

Judge's Telephone (843)726-5800

Issuing Court: Magistrate Municipal Circuit

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

ARREST WARRANT

2023A2710200094

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Jasper

THE STATE 06-2023-025

against

Brian Francis Williams, Jr

Address: [Redacted]

Phone: [Redacted] SSN: [Redacted]

Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 8 Weight: 160

DL State: SC DL #: [Redacted]

DOB: [Redacted] Agency ORI #: SC040095C

Prosecuting Agency: S C Department Of Corrections Division

Prosecuting Officer: William C Pruitt - S00534

Offense: Drugs / Trafficking in meth. or cocaine base - 100 g or more, but less than 200 g

Offense Code: 0368

Code/Ordinance Sec: 44-53-0375(C)(3)

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 Brian Francis Williams Jr on 3-23-23

[Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer]

RETURN WARRANT TO:

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

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of )

Jasper )

Personally appeared before me the affiant William C Pruitt who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Brian Francis Williams, Jr

did within this county and state on or about 3/23/2023 violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Jasper )

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Drugs / Trafficking in meth. or cocaine base - 100 g or more, but less than 200 g

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 March 23, 2023, the Defendant Brian Williams, did commit the offense of Drugs / Trafficking in methamphetamine or cocaine base - 100 grams or more, but less than 200 grams, in that: The Defendant while located on I-95 Northbound between mile markers 21 and 22, while in proximity of Ridgeland Correctional Institution, Ridgeland SC, 29936, during a lawful arrest was found to be in possession of approximately 110 grams of a white rock substance that field tested positive for methamphetamine.

Signature of Affiant

[Signature of Affiant]

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of )

Jasper )

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 3/23/2023 defendant Brian Francis Williams, Jr

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

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Jasper ) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Drugs / Trafficking in meth. or cocaine base - 100 g or more, but less than 200 g

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 3/23/2023 )

[Signature of Issuing Judge] (L.S.)

Rhonda Yvonne Edwards (Magistrate)

Judge Code: 7463

Judge's Address

Ridgeland, SC 29936-

Judge's Telephone (843)726-5800

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

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