



South Carolina Department of Corrections

Oct. 27, 2023

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 former inmate on contraband charges involving a drone at Ridgeland Correctional Institution.

Alex Wartara Nash, 43, of Spartanburg, is charged with possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, providing contraband to prisoners and criminal conspiracy. His charges involve attempting to fly a drone carrying marijuana onto the Ridgeland prison yard.

At the time of his arrest, Nash was out on bond from [charges involving flying a drone](#) carrying contraband on the Lieber prison yard in August.

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.

2023A2720200169

GT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Ridgeland

THE STATE 06-2023-086 against

Alex Wartara Nash

Address: [Redacted]

Phone: SSN: [Redacted]

Sex: M Race: B Height: 6 1 Weight: 200

DL State: SC DL #: [Redacted]

DOB: [Redacted] Agency ORI #: SC040095C

Prosecuting Agency: S C Department Of Corrections Division

Prosecuting Officer: Richard M Darling - S00238

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 on [Signature] on 10/26/2023

[Signature] Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

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

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County/ Municipality of Ridgeland

AFFIDAVIT

April 21, 2003 SCCA 518

Personally appeared before me the affiant Richard M Darling who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Alex Wartara Nash did within this county and state on or about 10/26/2023 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Ridgeland) 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 October 26, 2023, in the County of Jasper, Town of Ridgeland, one Alex Wartara Nash, did commit the offense of Contraband/Possession attempt to Furnish Contraband to a Prisoner, in that: Defendant was arrested and charged with Possession with Intent to Distribute Marijuana into Ridgeland Correctional Institution located at 5 Correctional Rd in Ridgeland, SC 29936 associated with efforts by defendant Nash to use a drone aerial apparatus for the purpose of distribution. Special Agents that were investigating aerial drone activity in the area of RCI located defendant Nash in his attempt and also recovered 49 grams of plant material believed to be marijuana and the aerial drone used by defendant Nash in his attempt. Affiant, witnesses and others to prove same.

Signature of Affiant

[Signature]

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA County/ Municipality of Ridgeland

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 10/26/2023 defendant Alex Wartara Nash 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: 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 10/26/2023

[Signature] Thomas L Scoggins (Ridgeland) Judge Code: 6563

(L.S.)

Judge's Address Post Office Box 1119 Ridgeland, SC 29936- Judge's Telephone (843)726-7500 Issuing Court: Magistrate Municipal Circuit

2023A2720200167

37

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Ridgeland

THE STATE 06-2023-086 against

Alex Wartara Nash

Address:

Phone: SSN:

Sex: M Race: B Height: 6 I Weight: 200

DL State: SC DL #: Agency ORI #: SC040095C

DOB: Agency ORI #: SC040095C

Prosecuting Agency: S C Department Of Corrections Division

Prosecuting Officer: Richard M Darling - S00238

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 on Alexander Nash 10/26/23

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

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

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AFFIDAVIT

SCCA 518 April 21, 2003

County/ Municipality of Ridgeland

Personally appeared before me the affiant Richard M Darling who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Alex Wartara Nash did within this county and state on or about 10/26/2023 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Ridgeland) 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 October 26, 2023, in the County of Jasper, Town of Ridgeland, one, Alex Wartara Nash, did commit the offense of Possession with intent to Distribute Marijuana (PWID) in that: Defendant was located in the solar panel field within the Town of Ridgeland South Carolina 29936 and in the immediate proximity to Ridgeland Correctional Institution (RCI). This area is an established known flight location for introducing contraband into RCI using (AI) or drone air flight apparatuses. Special Agents were in the area when the defendant was dropped off in the solar panel field. Special Agents conducted a K9 track and located and detained the defendant a short distance away. Special Agents conducted a search of the area in which an orange unmanned aerial AI drone vehicle and a black duffel bag containing wrapped contraband packages. A clear plastic bag containing approximately 49 grams of green leafy substance was located which did field test presumptive for Marijuana. Affiant, witnesses and others to prove same.

Signature of Affiant

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA County/ Municipality of Ridgeland

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 10/26/2023 defendant Alex Wartara Nash 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: 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 10/26/2023

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.) Thomas L. Scoggins (Ridgeland) Judge Code: 6563

Judge's Address Post Office Box 1119 Ridgeland, SC 29936

Judge's Telephone (843)726-7500

Issuing Court: Magistrate Municipal Circuit

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2023A2720200168

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Ridgeland

THE STATE 06-2023-086 against

Alex Wartara Nash

Address: [Redacted]

Phone: SSN: Sex: M Race: B Height: 6 I vveight: 200 DL State: SC DL #: DOB: Agency ORI #: SC040095C

Prosecuting Agency: S C Department Of Corrections Division

Prosecuting Officer: Richard M Darling - S00238

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 Alexander Nash on 10/26/2023

[Signature]

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

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

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County/ Municipality of Ridgeland

AFFIDAVIT

April 21, 2003 SCCA 518

Personally appeared before me the affiant Richard M Darling who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Alex Wartara Nash did within this county and state on or about 10/26/2023 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Ridgeland) 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:

That on October 26, 2023 in the County of Jasper, Town of Ridgeland, one Alex Wartara Nash with another did unlawfully plan or scheme to accomplish the crime of a Conspiracy by unlawful means. Defendant and another did conspire through mutual agreement and actions to distribute unlawful drugs into the Ridgeland Correctional Institution located at 5 Correctional Rd. in Ridgeland, SC 29936. Defendant was dropped off by a co-conspirator in the area of the solar panel field adjacent to RCI within the Town of Ridgeland, SC 29936 for the purpose of using a (AI) drone aerial apparatus to distribute Marijuana into the RCI. Special Agents conducted a K9 track of the last known location and located and detained the defendant a short distance away. Special Agents conducted a search of the area in which an orange unmanned aerial vehicle (drone) and a black duffel bag containing 49 grams of plant material believed to be marijuana was located. Affiant, witnesses and others to prove same.

Signature of Affiant

[Signature]

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Ridgeland

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 10/26/2023 defendant Alex Wartara Nash

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: 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 10/26/2023.

Signature of Issuing Judge Thomas L. Scoggins (Ridgeland) Judge Code: 6563

(L.S.)

Judge's Address Post Office Box 1119 Ridgeland, SC 29936-

Judge's Telephone (843)726-7500

Issuing Court: Magistrate Municipal Circuit

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