



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

P.O. Box 21398
Columbia, South Carolina
29221-1398

Henry D. McMaster, Governor

Mark A. Keel, Chief

Tel: (803) 737-9000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
December 4, 2020

Contact: Tommy Crosby
tcrosby@sled.sc.gov
(803) 896-8396

FORMER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER CHARGED WITH CONTRIBUTING TO A MINOR

Agents from the S.C. Law Enforcement Division arrested Tuesday a former law enforcement officer with the Sumter Police Department who in May, while off-duty, hosted a party where he provided alcohol to minors. The officer had not yet completed all necessary requirements to be a fully certified Class I Officer at time of incident.

Joshua Lee Christmas, 23, was charged with Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor.

The SLED investigation was requested by the Sumter County Sheriff's Office.

Christmas was booked at the Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the 3rd Circuit Solicitor's Office.

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Warrant Attached
www.sled.sc.gov

ORIGINAL

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
 County/ Municipality of)
 Sumter)

Personally appeared before me the affiant Michael S Gifford who
 being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Joshua Lee Christmas
 did within this county and state on or about 5/23/2020 violate the criminal laws of the
 State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Sumter)
 in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Minor / Contributing to the delinquency of a minor

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:

Between May 23, 2020, and May 24, 2020, Joshua Lee Christmas did commit the crime of Contributing to the Delinquency of a
 Minor to wit: Joshua Christmas, who was 22 years old at the time, knowingly and willfully purchased alcohol for a minor he knew
 to be less than 21 years old. Joshua Christmas allowed minors to consume alcohol in his presence at his residence, located at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] in Sumter County, South Carolina. Joshua Christmas has admitted to the same. This act is in violation of the S.C. Code
 of Laws 16-17-490. This is supported by evidence collected and witness' statements obtained during the SLED investigation. The
 aforementioned information is true and accurate, and was obtained through witness statements and the investigation of this affiant.
 All against the law, peace and dignity of the State of South Carolina.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
 County/ Municipality of)
 Sumter)

Signature of Affiant: *Michael S. Gifford*

Affiant's Address: P. O. Box 21398
Columbia, SC 29221-

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 5/23/2020 defendant Joshua Lee Christmas
 did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of
 County/ Municipality of Sumter) as set forth below.

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Minor / Contributing to the delinquency of a minor

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 11/20/2020

Signature of Issuing Judge: *[Signature]* Judge's Address: 190 E. Canal Street
Sumter, SC 29151-1428
 Bryan Keith Griffin (Magistrate) Judge's Telephone: (803)436-2280
 Judge Code: 5043 Issuing Court: Magistrate Municipal Circuit

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ARREST WARRANT

2020A4310200892

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
 County/ Municipality of
 Sumter

Joshua Lee Christmas
 Address: [REDACTED]
Sumter, SC 29154-8051

THE STATE 33-20-0061
 against

Phone: [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED]
 Sex: M Race: W Height: 6 Weight: 175
 DL State: SC DL #: [REDACTED]
 DOB: [REDACTED] Agency ORI #: SCLED0000
 Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division
 Prosecuting Officer: Michael S Gifford - S00484
 Offense: Minor / Contributing to the delinquency of a minor

Offense Code: 0048
 Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-17-0490

This warrant is **CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE** in the
 County/ Municipality of _____
 is to be arrested and brought before me to be
 dealt with according to the law.

Date: _____ (L.S.)
 Signature of Judge

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to
 defendant _____
 on _____

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:
 General Sessions
 215 N. Harvin St.
 Sumter, SC 29150

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