



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:
April 29, 2022

Contact: Renée Wunderlich
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SLED CHARGES FORMER RICHLAND COUNTY DEPUTY WITH STALKING

Agents from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged former Richland County Sheriff's Deputy James Christopher Leasure, 28, with stalking. Details of the investigation are in the warrant attached.

SLED was requested by the Lexington County Sheriff's Department.

Leasure was booked at the Lexington County Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the 11th Circuit Solicitor's Office.

A copy of this news release is also on SLED's website: www.sled.sc.gov

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An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



ARREST WARRANT

2022A3210201193

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Lexington

THE STATE against

James Christopher Leasure

Address: Lexington, SC 29072-6202

Phone: SSN: Sex: M Race: W Height: 6 Weight: 250

DL State: SC DL #: DOB: 1993 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Richard J Cullop - S01690

Offense: Stalking / Stalking

Offense Code: 2406 Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-03-1700(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 James Christopher Leasure on April 29, 2022

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions Mark H. Westbrook Judicial Center 205 East Main Street Lexington, SC 29072

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Lexington

Personally appeared before me the affiant Richard J Cullop being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant James Christopher Leasure did within this county and state on or about 4/22/2022 State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [] Municipality of Lexington) violate the criminal laws of the in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Stalking / Stalking

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:

From April 20, 2022 to April 22, 2022, while at Lexington, SC, which is in Lexington County, James Leasure sent numerous text messages to his spouse, which caused to fear assault, death, and damage to property. On April 20, 2022, James threatened to assault. On April 21, 2022, James sent multiple messages throughout the day telling he would damage vehicle so it was not drivable. Out of fear for safety, fled with. On April 22, 2022, James sent numerous text messages threatening to assault and messages interpreted as a threat to life. On April 28, 2022, SLED Agents conducted a voluntary interview with James and he confirmed he wrote messages. James was given explicit instructions to not contact further while the investigation was ongoing. On April 29, 2022, James continued to contact

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Lexington

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

Affiant's Telephone (803)896-7250

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 4/22/2022 defendant James Christopher Leasure did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [] Municipality of Lexington) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Stalking / Stalking

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 4/29/2022

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.)

Brian Norman Buck (Magistrate)

Judge Code: 7322

Judge's Address 521 Gibson Road Lexington, SC 29072-

Judge's Telephone (803)951-2518

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