



## 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  
February 16, 2023

Contact: Renée Wunderlich  
(803) 260 – 3020  
[rwunderlich@sled.sc.gov](mailto:rwunderlich@sled.sc.gov)

### **SLED CHARGES COLLETON COUNTY MAN WITH 2 COUNTS OF POSSESSION OF A STOLEN VEHICLE AND 2 COUNTS OF OBTAINING GOODS UNDER FALSE PRETENSES**

Agents with the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged William Henry Stephens, III., 22, of Cottageville, SC, on February 13, 2023, with 2 counts of Possession of a Stolen Vehicle and 2 counts of Obtaining Goods Under False Pretenses.

Details can be found in the attached warrants.

Stephens was booked at the Florence County Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the 12<sup>th</sup> Circuit Solicitor's Office.

In December of 2022, SLED was requested by the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office in Virginia to assist with the investigation of a check fraud and car theft ring that spanned multiple states. The investigation is active and ongoing.

###



*An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*



ARREST WARRANT

2023A2110100039

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Florence

THE STATE

against

William Henry Stephens, III

Address: [Redacted]

Cottageville, SC 29435-5143

Phone: [Redacted] SSN: [Redacted]

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

DL State: SC DL #: [Redacted]

DOB: [Redacted] 2000 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Christopher P Cestare - S00628

Offense: Vehicle / Poss., conceal, sell., or dispose of stolen vehicle, value \$10,000 or more

Offense Code: 3468

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-21-0080

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 William Stephens

on 02/13/2023

S/A [Signature]

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions Court  
181 North Irby Street, Suite 1100  
Florence, SC 29501

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Florence

Personally appeared before me the affiant Christopher P Cestare who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant William Henry Stephens, III

did within this county and state on or about 11/26/2022 violate the criminal laws of the

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

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Vehicle / Poss., conceal, sell., or dispose of stolen vehicle, value \$10,000 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:

That on or about November 24th, 2022, while acting in concert with a co-defendant, one William Henry Stephens III used a fraudulent cashier's check to steal a 2013 Porsche Boxster (VIN [Redacted] in North Carolina, and the theft was reported stolen to the Huntersville Police Department. Knowing that the vehicle was not his to sell, Stephens did sell the vehicle to [Redacted] at his place of work located at [Redacted] in the county of Florence on November 26, 2022. [Redacted] did not know the vehicle was stolen.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Florence

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 11/26/2022 defendant William Henry Stephens, III

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

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Florence) as set forth below.

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Vehicle / Poss., conceal, sell., or dispose of stolen vehicle, value \$10,000 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 2/6/2023

[Signature] (L.S.)

Signature of Issuing Judge  
Frank White

Judge Code: 7226

Judge's Address 180 North Irby Street (Msc-W)  
Florence, SC 29501-

Judge's Telephone (843)665-0031

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

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

AFFIDAVIT

ARREST WARRANT

2023A2110100040

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Florence

THE STATE against

William Henry Stephens, III

Address: Cottageville, SC 29435-5143

Phone: SSN: Sex: M Race: B Height: 6 Weight: 200

DL State: SC DL #: DOB: /2000 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division
Prosecuting Officer: Christopher P Cestare - S00628

Offense: Vehicle / Poss., conceal, sell., or dispose of stolen vehicle, value \$10,000 or more

Offense Code: 3468
Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-21-0080

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 William Stephens on 12/13/2023

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions Court
181 North Irby Street, Suite 1100
Florence, SC 29501

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of
Florence

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

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

Personally appeared before me the affiant Christopher P Cestare who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant William Henry Stephens, III did within this county and state on or about 12/5/2022 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Florence) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Vehicle / Poss., conceal, sell., or dispose of stolen vehicle, value \$10,000 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:

That on or about December 3rd, 2022, while acting in concert with a co-defendant, one William Henry Stephens III used a fraudulent cashier's check to steal a 2015 Porsche 911 (VIN WP0AC2A99FS189166) in Virginia, and the theft was reported stolen to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. Knowing that the vehicle was not his to sell, Stephens did sell the vehicle to John L. Richardson at his residence of 2761 Olde Mill Road in the county of Florence on December 5, 2022. Richardson did not know the vehicle was stolen.

Signature of Affiant

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of
Florence

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 12/5/2022 defendant William Henry Stephens, III did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Florence) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Vehicle / Poss., conceal, sell., or dispose of stolen vehicle, value \$10,000 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

Signature of Issuing Judge: Frank White (L.S.)
Judge Code: 7226

Judge's Address: 180 North Irby Street (Msc-W)
Florence, SC 29501-
Judge's Telephone: (843)665-0031

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

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2023A2110100041

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/  Municipality of

Florence

THE STATE

against

William Henry Stephens, III

Address: [Redacted]

Cottageville, SC 29435-5143

Phone: [Redacted] SSN: [Redacted]

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

DL State: SC DL #: [Redacted]

DOB: [Redacted] 2000 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Christopher P Cestare - S00628

Offense: Breach / Obtain signature or prop. under false pretenses, value \$10,000 or more

Offense Code: 3471

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-13-0240

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 William Stephens on 02/03/2023

S/A [Signature]  
Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions Court  
181 North Irby Street, Suite 1100  
Florence, SC 29501

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/  Municipality of

Florence

Personally appeared before me the affiant Christopher P Cestare who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant William Henry Stephens, III did within this county and state on or about 12/5/2022 violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of  County/  Municipality of Florence) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Breach / Obtain signature or prop. under false pretenses, value \$10,000 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:

That on or about December 5th, 2022, at [Redacted] which is in the county of Florence, one William Henry Stephens III did obtain \$103,000 from the sale of a stolen 2015 Porsche 911 (VIN [Redacted]) that was sold to [Redacted] with the intent to defraud [Redacted] of his money, as [Redacted] did not know that the vehicle was stolen.

Signature of Affiant

S/A [Signature]

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/  Municipality of

Florence

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 12/5/2022 defendant William Henry Stephens, III did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of  County/  Municipality of Florence) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Breach / Obtain signature or prop. under false pretenses, value \$10,000 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 2/6/2023

Frank White (L.S.)  
Signature of Issuing Judge

Frank White

Judge Code: 7226

Judge's Address 180 North Irby Street (Msc-W)  
Florence, SC 29501-

Judge's Telephone (843)665-0031

Issuing Court:  Magistrate  Municipal  Circuit

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AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

2023A2110100042

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/  Municipality of

Florence

THE STATE  
against

William Henry Stephens, III

Address: [Redacted]  
Cottageville, SC 29435-5143

Phone: [Redacted] SSN: [Redacted]  
Sex: M Race: B Height: 6 1 Weight: 200

DL State: SC DL #: [Redacted]  
DOB: [Redacted] /2000 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Christopher P Cestare - S00628

Offense: Breach / Obtain signature or prop. under false pretenses, value \$10,000 or more

Offense Code: 3471

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-13-0240

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 William Stephens on 02/05/2023

[Signature]  
Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions Court  
181 North Irby Street, Suite 1100  
Florence, SC 29501

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/  Municipality of

Florence

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

S.C. Attorney General  
April 21, 2003  
SCCA 518

Personally appeared before me the affiant Christopher P Cestare who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant William Henry Stephens, III did within this county and state on or about 11/26/2022 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of  County/  Municipality of Florence) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Breach / Obtain signature or prop. under false pretenses, value \$10,000 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:

That on or about November 26th, 2022, at [Redacted] in the county of Florence, one William Henry Stephens III did obtain \$15,000 from the sale of a stolen 2013 Porsche Boxster (VIN [Redacted]) that was sold to [Redacted] with the intent to defraud [Redacted] of his money, as [Redacted] did not know that the vehicle was stolen.

Signature of Affiant

[Signature]

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/  Municipality of

Florence

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 11/26/2022 defendant William Henry Stephens, III did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of  County/  Municipality of Florence) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Breach / Obtain signature or prop. under false pretenses, value \$10,000 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 2/6/2023

[Signature] (L.S.)  
Signature of Issuing Judge  
Frank White  
Judge Code: 7226

Judge's Address 180 North Irby Street (Msc-W)  
Florence, SC 29501-  
Judge's Telephone (843)665-0031

Issuing Court:  Magistrate  Municipal  Circuit

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