



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
September 15, 2023

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information
(803) 260 – 3020
rwunderlich@sled.sc.gov

HAMPTON COUNTY MAN FACING ADDITIONAL CHARGES, INCLUDING MURDER AND ATTEMPTED MURDER

Agents with the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr., 24, on Thursday, September 14, 2023, with Murder, 2 counts of Attempted Murder, and Possession of a weapon during a violent crime.

Details can be found in the attached warrants.

Smoak was charged by SLED Agents on Monday, September 11, 2023, with Attempted Murder, and Possession of a weapon during a violent crime.

Smoak was transferred from the Jasper County Detention Center and booked at the Hampton County Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the 14th Circuit Solicitor's Office.

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An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



ARREST WARRANT

2023A2510200090

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

THE STATE against

Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr

Address: Varnville, SC 29944-4632

Phone: SSN: Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 9 Weight: 180 DL State: SC DL #: DOB: 1999 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000 Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division Prosecuting Officer: Shawn M Murray - S00395 Offense: Murder / Murder

Offense Code: 0116 Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-03-0010

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 Franklin Smoak on 9/14/23 Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO: General Sessions 1 Courthouse Square Elm St P O Box 7 Hampton, SC 29924

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA County/ Municipality of

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

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

Personally appeared before me the affiant Shawn M Murray who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr did within this county and state on or about 7/31/2023 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Murder / Murder

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 July 31, 2023, the defendant Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr; did willingly, knowingly, and feloniously violate S.C. statue of Murder 16-3-10 with malice aforethought, while in the parking lot at 13700 Yemassee Hwy, in the County of Hampton, SC in the following particulars: On July 31, 2023, victim was operating a white Ford Crown Victoria on Yemassee Hwy in Hampton County, SC. The defendant, Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr. admitted to shooting into the vehicle, striking the victim causing fatal injuries. The above facts are true and believable based on witnesses interviewed in the case and the Investigation of Special Agent Shawn Murray of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA County/ Municipality of

Affiant's Address 104 Simmons Street Walterboro, SC 29488- Affiant's Telephone (843)782-3822

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 7/31/2023 defendant Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Murder / Murder

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 9/13/2023

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.) Tonja P. Alexander Judge Code: 7387

Judge's Address P. O. Box 1299 Varnville, SC 29944- Judge's Telephone (843)914-2230

Issuing Court: Magistrate Municipal Circuit

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ARREST WARRANT

2023A2510200091

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

THE STATE
against

Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr

Address: [Redacted]
Varnville, SC 29944-4632

Phone: [Redacted] SSN: [Redacted]
Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 9 Weight: 180
DL State: SC DL #: [Redacted]
DOB: [Redacted] 1999 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000
Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division
Prosecuting Officer: Shawn M Murray - S00395
Offense: Assault / Attempted Murder

Offense Code: 3410
Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-03-0029

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 9/19/23 Franklin Smoak
on 9/14/23

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
1 Courthouse Square Elm St
P O Box 7
Hampton, SC 29924

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
 County/ Municipality of)

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

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

Personally appeared before me the affiant Shawn M Murray who
being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr
did within this county and state on or about 7/31/2023 violate the criminal laws of the
State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of)
in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Assault / Attempted Murder

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 July 31, 2023, while in Hampton County SC, at 13700 Yemassee Hwy, Hampton County, SC defendant Franklin Radell
Smoak, Jr, did commit the offense of violation section 16-3-29, of the South Carolina State code of laws, 1976 as amended,
Attempted Murder, in that he did willfully, unlawfully, feloniously, and with malice aforethought, attempt to kill the victim, [Redacted]
Franklin Smoak, Jr did shoot the above-mentioned victim and struck her once in the face causing severe injuries. The
victim was taken to Memorial Health Hospital in Savannah Georgia. The defendant Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr admitted to shooting
into a white Ford Crown Victoria that was traveling on Yemassee Hwy, Hampton County, SC. Victim [Redacted] was sitting in
the passenger seat of the vehicle and was struck by gunfire. The above facts are true and believable based on witnesses interviewed
in the case and the Investigation of Special Agent Shawn Murray of the SC Law Enforcement Division.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
 County/ Municipality of)

Affiant's Address 104 Simmons Street
Walterboro, SC 29488-
Affiant's Telephone (843)782-3822

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 7/31/2023 defendant Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr
did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of
 County/ Municipality of) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Assault / Attempted Murder

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 9/13/2023
Tonja P. Alexander (L.S.)
Signature of Issuing Judge
Tonja P. Alexander
Judge Code: 7387

Judge's Address P. O. Box 1299
Varnville, SC 29944-
Judge's Telephone (843)914-2230
Issuing Court: Magistrate Municipal Circuit

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ARREST WARRANT

2023A2510200092

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

THE STATE against

Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr

Address: Varnville, SC 29944-4632

Phone: SSN: Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 9 Weight: 180 DL State: SC DL #: DOB: 1999 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000 Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division Prosecuting Officer: Shawn M Murray - S00395 Offense: Assault / Attempted Murder

Offense Code: 3410 Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-03-0029

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 Franklin Smoak JR on 9/19/23

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions 1 Courthouse Square Elm St P O Box 7 Hampton, SC 29924

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

Form Approved by S.C. Attorney General April 21, 2023 DCCA 518

Personally appeared before me the affiant Shawn M Murray who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr did within this county and state on or about 7/31/2023 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Assault / Attempted Murder

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 July 31, 2023, while in Hampton County SC, at 13700 Yemassee Hwy, Hampton County, SC defendant Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr, did commit the offense of violation section 16-3-29, of the South Carolina State code of laws, 1976 as amended, Attempted Murder, in that he did willfully, unlawfully, feloniously, and with malice aforethought, attempt to kill the victim. The defendant Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr, admitted to shooting into a white Ford Crown Victoria that was traveling on Yemassee Hwy, Hampton County, SC. Victim was sitting in the rear passenger seat of the vehicle during the shooting. The above facts are true and believable based on witnesses interviewed in the case and the investigation of Special Agent Shawn Murray of the SC Law Enforcement Division.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Affiant's Address 104 Simmons Street Walterboro, SC 2948- Affiant's Telephone (843)782-3822

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 7/31/2023 defendant Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Assault / Attempted Murder

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 9/13/2023

Signature of Issuing Judge Tonja P. Alexander Judge Code: 7387

(L.S.)

Judge's Address P. O. Box 1299 Varnville, SC 29944- Judge's Telephone (843)914-2230

Issuing Court: County Magistrate Municipal Circuit

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ARREST WARRANT

2023A2510200093

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

THE STATE against

Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr

Address: [Redacted] Varnville, SC 29944-4632

Phone: [Redacted] SSN: [Redacted] Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 9 Weight: 180

DL State: SC DL #: [Redacted] DOB: [Redacted] 1999 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Shawn M Murray - S00395

Offense: Weapons / Poss. weapon during violent crime, if not also sentenced to life without parole or death

Offense Code: 0549 Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-23-0490

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 Franklin Smoak on 9/11/23

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions 1 Courthouse Square Elm St P O Box 7 Hampton, SC 29924

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

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

Form Approved by S.C. Attorney General April 21, 2009 SCCA 518

Personally appeared before me the affiant Shawn M Murray who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr did within this county and state on or about 7/31/2023 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [] Municipality of) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Weapons / Poss. weapon during violent crime, if not also sentenced to life without parole or death

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 July 31, 2023, while in Hampton County SC, at 13700 Yemassee Hwy, Hampton County, SC defendant Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr, did commit the offense of violation section 16-23-490, of the South Carolina State code of laws, 1976 as amended, Possession of a firearm during the commission of a violent crime, possess a firearm during the commission of attempting to murder a victim. That on July 31, 2023, Franklin Smoak, Jr did willfully, unlawfully, feloniously, and with malice aforethought, attempt to kill the victim [Redacted] Franklin Smoak, Jr did shoot the above-mentioned victim and struck her once in the face. The victim was transported to Memorial Health Hospital in Savannah GA. The above facts are true and based on witnesses interviewed in the case and the Investigation of Special Agent Shawn Murray of the SC Law Enforcement Division.

Signature of Affiant

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

Affiant's Address 104 Simmons Street Walterboro, SC 29488- Affiant's Telephone (843)782-3822

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 7/31/2023 defendant Franklin Radell Smoak, Jr did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [] Municipality of) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Weapons / Poss. weapon during violent crime, if not also sentenced to life without parole or death

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 9/13/2023 Signature of Issuing Judge Tonja P. Alexander Judge Code: 7387

(L.S.)

Judge's Address P. O. Box 1299 Varnville, SC 29944- Judge's Telephone (843)914-2230

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

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