



## 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  
October 17, 2023

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

### **SLED CHARGES FORMER BARNWELL POLICE LIEUTENANT WITH ASSAULT & BATTERY 3<sup>RD</sup> DEGREE**

Agents with the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Ernest Ray Lewis, 46, on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, with Assault & Battery 3<sup>rd</sup> degree.

Details can be found in the attached warrant.

Lewis was booked at the Barnwell County Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit Solicitor's Office.

###

ARREST WARRANT

2023A0610100095

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Barnwell

THE STATE

31-23-0097

against

Ernest Ray Lewis

Address:

Olar, SC 29843-2146

Phone: SSN: Sex: M Race: W Height: 6 Weight: 165 DL State: SC DL #: DOB: 1977 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000 Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division Prosecuting Officer: Jarius J Richardson - S00549 Offense: Assault / Assault & Battery 3rd degree

Offense Code: 3414 Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-03-0600(E)(1)

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 Ray Lewis on 10-17-23

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

Williston Magistrate 12445 Main Street Post Office Box 485 Williston, SC 29853

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of )

Barnwell )

Personally appeared before me the affiant Jarius J Richardson who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Ernest Ray Lewis did within this county and state on or about 9/24/2023 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Barnwell ) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Assault / Assault & Battery 3rd degree

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 OR ABOUT 9/24/23 IN THE COUNTY OF BARNWELL STATE OF SC, THE AFORESAID, ONE ERNEST RAY LEWIS, DID COMMIT THE OFFENSE OF ASSAULT & BATTERY 3RD DEGREE. THE DEFENDANT DID WILLFULLY, UNLAWFULLY, ATTEMPT TO INJURE THE DEFENDANT HAD BEEN EFFECTING A LAWFUL ARREST OF THE VICTIM FOR DV 3RD DEGREE REFUSED TO GET INTO A PATROL VEHICLE TO BE TRANSPORTED TO JAIL. THE DEFENDANT ASSAULTED THE VICTIM BY STRIKING HIM ACROSS THE HEAD USING AN OPEN HAND AND DRIVE STUNNING HIM WITH HIS DEPARTMENT ISSUED TASER IN THE ABDOMEN AND THIGH. THIS ACT BEING PROVEN BY SLED, ALL TO PROVIDE THE SAME AGAINST THE FORM OF THE STATUE IN SUCH CASE MADE AND PROVIDED AGAINST THE PEACE AND DIGNITY OF THE STATE.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of )

Barnwell )

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 9/24/2023 defendant Ernest Ray Lewis did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Barnwell ) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Assault / Assault & Battery 3rd degree

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 10/16/2023

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.) Robert Oscar Cooper (Magistrate) Judge Code: 7228

Judge's Address Post Office Box 485 Williston, SC 29853-

Judge's Telephone (803)266-3700

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

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

ORIGINAL

AFFIDAVIT