



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
August 5, 2024

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information
rwunderlich@sled.sc.gov

SLED CHARGES BARNWELL COUNTY MAN WITH MURDER, POSSESSION OF A WEAPON DURING A VIOLENT CRIME

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Aubrey Priester, Jr., 42, with Murder, and Possession of a Weapon During a Violent Crime on Sunday, August 4, 2024. The deceased was identified as Juston Erving, 33, by the Bamberg County Coroner.

Details can be found in the attached warrants.

Priester was booked into the Bamberg County Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the 2nd Circuit Solicitor's Office.

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ARREST WARRANT

2024A0510100135

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Bamberg

THE STATE
against

Aubrey Priester, Jr

Address:

Barnwell, SC 29812-1736

Phone: SSN

Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 9 Weight: 175

DL State: SC DL #:

DOB: 1982 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Frank M Pennell - S00394

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 Aubrey Priester
on August 4, 2024

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

Bamberg Magistrate
1234 North Street
Post Office Box 187
Bamberg, SC 29003

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Bamberg

Personally appeared before me the affiant Frank M Pennell

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Aubrey Priester, Jr
did within this county and state on or about 8/4/2024State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Bamberg
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:

See Attached Affidavit.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Bamberg

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 8/4/2024

defendant Aubrey Priester, Jr

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

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Bamberg

) 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 8/4/2024

Signature of Issuing Judge
Richard Craig Threalt

Judge Code: 7035

Judge's Address 2873 Main Highway

Bamberg, SC 29003

Judge's Telephone (803)245-3016

Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

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

ORIGINAL

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF BAMBERG

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me, a magistrate of this county, one Special Agent Frank Pennell of SLED who first being duly sworn, deposes and says that **Aubrey Priester Jr. (Black male, height: 5'9" / weight: approximately 185 / SCDL# [REDACTED] / DOB [REDACTED] 1982)** did within this county and state on or about August 4th, 2024, violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE

MURDER

16-3-10

The affiant states there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime(s) set forth, and that such probable cause is based upon the following facts:

That on August 4th, 2024, the defendant Aubrey Priester Jr.; did willingly, knowingly, and feloniously violate S.C. statute of **MURDER 16-3-10** with malice aforethought, while at [REDACTED] Sato Avenue, in the City of Denmark and County of Bamberg, SC in the following particulars:

On August 4th, 2024, at approximately 3:30 am, the defendant was involved in an altercation with the victim, Juston Dewayne Lyles Erving. During the course of the altercation the victim produced a firearm and began firing at a trailer located at the above listed address. According to a witness (to be named at the discretion of the court), the defendant produced a firearm and shot the victim, causing him to fall to the ground. While the victim was on the ground, incapacitated, the defendant approached the victim and repeatedly shot him in the upper torso and head.

The above facts are true and believable based on witnesses interviewed in the case and the Investigation of **Special Agent Frank Pennell** of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division.

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 4th day of August, 2024

[Signature]
Affiant

104 Simmons Street
Walterboro, S.C. 29488
(843) 782-3822

Signature of Judge [Signature]
7005 [REDACTED] JUDGE

ARREST WARRANT

2024A0510100134

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Bamberg

THE STATE

against

Aubrey Priester, Jr

Address:

Barnwell, SC 29812-1736

Phone: SSN: Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 9 Weight: 175

DL State: SC DL #: DOB: 1982 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Frank M Pennell - S00394

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 Aubrey Priester on August 4, 2024

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

Bamberg Magistrate
1234 North Street
Post Office Box 187
Bamberg, SC 29003

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Bamberg

Personally appeared before me the affiant Frank M Pennell who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Aubrey Priester, Jr did within this county and state on or about 8/4/2024 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Bamberg) 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:

See Attached Affidavit.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Bamberg

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 8/4/2024 defendant Aubrey Priester, Jr did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Bamberg) 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 8/4/2024

Signature of Issuing Judge
Richard Craig Threath
Judge Code: 7035

(L.S.)

Judge's Address 2873 Main Highway
Bamberg, SC 29003

Judge's Telephone (803)245-3016

Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

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

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF BAMBERG

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me, a magistrate of this county, one Special Agent Frank Pennell of SLED who first being duly sworn, deposes and says that **Aubrey Priester Jr. (Black male, height: 5'9" / weight: approximately 185 / SCDL# [REDACTED] / DOB [REDACTED] 1982)** did within this county and state on or about August 4th, 2024, violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE

Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Violent Crime 16-23-490

The affiant states there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime(s) set forth, and that such probable cause is based upon the following facts:

That on August 4th, 2024, the defendant Aubrey Priester Jr.; did willingly, knowingly, and feloniously violate S.C. statute of *Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Violent Crime 16-23-490*, while at [REDACTED] Sato Avenue, in the City of Denmark and County of Bamberg, SC in the following particulars:

On August 4th, 2024, at approximately 3:30 am, the defendant was involved in an altercation with the victim, Juston Dewayne Lyles Erving. During the course of the altercation the victim produced a firearm and began firing at a trailer located at the above listed address. According to a witness (to be named at the discretion of the court), the defendant produced a firearm and shot the victim, causing him to fall to the ground. While the victim was on the ground, incapacitated, the defendant approached the victim and repeatedly shot him in the upper torso and head causing the death of the victim.

Murder is a violent crime as defined under SC statute 16-1-60.

The above facts are true and believable based on witnesses interviewed in the case and the Investigation of **Special Agent Frank Pennell** of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division.

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 4th day of August, 2024


Affiant

104 Simmons Street
Walterboro, S.C. 29488
(843) 782-3822

Signature of Judge 

7035 R.C. THREATT, JUDGE