



South Carolina

STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Henry D. McMaster, Governor

Mark A. Keel, Chief

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Columbia, South Carolina
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 10, 2025

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information

SLED CHARGES A LEXINGTON COUNTY MAN WITH THREATENING THE LIFE OF A PUBLIC OFFICIAL

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Tyler Douglas Helms, 30, with Threatening the Life of a Public Official on March 4, 2025. The SLED investigation was requested by the West Columbia and Cayce Police Departments.

Details can be found in the attached warrant.

Helms was booked into the Lexington County Detention Center.

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

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For media inquiries, please email SLED's Public Information Office: pio@sled.sc.gov



An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



ARREST WARRANT

2025A3210200534

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Lexington

THE STATE

against

Tyler Douglas Helms

Address:

West Columbia, SC 29169-6257

Phone: SSN: [REDACTED]

Sex: M Race: W Height: 5 11 Weight: 225

DL State: SC DL #: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED] 1994 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Michael J Prodan - S00911

Offense: Threat / Threatening life, person or family of public official, teacher, principal

Offense Code: 0541

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-03-1040(A)

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 on

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

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

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Lexington

Personally appeared before me the affiant Michael J Prodan who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Tyler Douglas Helms did within this county and state on or about 2/14/2025 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Lexington) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Threat / Threatening life, person or family of public official, teacher, principal

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 02/14/25, Tyler Douglas Helms, instigated an argument with several individuals inside Vella's, 829 Knox Abbott Dr. Cayce, Lexington Co., SC, 29033. One of the individuals was [REDACTED] Helms was armed with a pistol during the argument. Helms later telephoned [REDACTED] to complain [REDACTED] was "belligerent drunk" to represent the [REDACTED] Approx 71 mins later Helms was arrested by Cayce PD for discharging a firearm in a public place (Vella's parking lot). Helms told CPD Office J. Nancarvis, "if I had a gun could I have shot him, stand your ground" I should have shot and killed them, that's SC Code of Laws, stand your ground" if I had shot one of them it would have been better." Helms therefore unlawfully, knowingly, & willfully delivered/conveyed a threat to take the life or inflict bodily harm upon a public official, [REDACTED] the threat directly related to the [REDACTED] s public officials responsibilities in violation of sec. 16-3-1040 (A).

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Lexington

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 2/14/2025 defendant Tyler Douglas Helms did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Lexington) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Threat / Threatening life, person or family of public official, teacher, principal

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 3/5/2025

Signature of Issuing Judge
Larry J. Saunders Jr.

Judge Code: 7517

Judge's Address 139 East Main Street, Suite A

Lexington, SC 29072-3557

Judge's Telephone (803)785-2520

Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

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AFFIDAVIT

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