



South Carolina

STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

P.O. Box 21398
Columbia, South Carolina
29221-1398

Henry D. McMaster, Governor

Mark A. Keel, Chief

WWW.SLED.SC.GOV

(803) 737-9000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 22, 2025

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information

SLED CHARGES GEORGIA MAN WITH CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY AND ILL TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Patrick Oneal Heard, 47, with Criminal Conspiracy and two counts of Ill Treatment of Animals on Friday, September 19, 2025.

Details can be found in the attached warrants.

Heard was booked into the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center in Richland County.

The case will be prosecuted by the 5th Circuit Solicitor's Office.

###

SLED news releases are published on SLED's website: www.sled.sc.gov
For media inquiries, please email SLED's Public Information Office: pio@sled.sc.gov



An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



ARREST WARRANT

2024A4010600125

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Richland / Lykesland Magistrate

THE STATE
against

Patrick Oneal Heard

Address:

Elberton, GA 20635-

Phone: SSN:
Sex: M Race: B Height: 6 2 Weight: 190

DL State: DL #:

DOB: 1978 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Douglas G Mcelwain - S04025

Offense: Conspiracy / Criminal Conspiracy, Common Law
conspiracy defined

Offense Code: 0049

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-17-0410

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 Patrick Oneal Heard
9/19/25

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

Richland County General Sessions
1701 Main Street
P O Box 192
Columbia, SC 29202

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Richland / Lykesland Magistrate

Personally appeared before me the affiant

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant

did within this county and state on or about

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Conspiracy / Criminal Conspiracy, Common Law conspiracy defined

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 4/20/24, the def., Patrick Oneal Heard, did commit the offense of criminal conspiracy related to animal fighting or baiting in a wooded area near [REDACTED] in Eastover. On I/D, SLED Dog fighting unit and other LE personnel disrupted an active dogfight at I/L. This was an organized high stake (over \$80,000 in cash was seized) dogfight in a very rural area where people attending must pay an entry fee to watch the dogfight. When LE announced their presence, the spectators, including the def., were standing around a dogfighting pit watching the fight, fled. The def. was arrested near the pit by LE. Affiant and others are witness to prove same.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Richland / Lykesland Magistrate

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 4/20/2024

defendant Patrick Oneal Heard

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

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Richland / Lykesland Magistrate

) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Conspiracy / Criminal Conspiracy, Common Law conspiracy defined

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 10/22/2024

Signature of Issuing Judge

Barbara Jo Wofford-Kanwat (Magistrate)

Judge Code: 7271

(L.S.)

Judge's Address 1403 Caroline Road

Columbia, SC 29209-

Judge's Telephone (803)576-2500

Issuing Court:

☒

Magistrate

☐

Municipal

☐

Circuit

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

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

AFFIDAVIT

Douglas G Mcelwain

who

Patrick Oneal Heard

4/20/2024

violate the criminal laws of the

☒

County/

☐

Municipality of

Richland / Lykesland Magistrate

ARREST WARRANT

2024A4010600098

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Richland / Lykesland Magistrate

THE STATE
against

Patrick Oneal Heard

Address:

Elberton, GA 20635-

Phone: SSN:
Sex: M Race: B Height: 6 2 Weight: 190

DL State: DL #:

DOB: 1978 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Douglas G Mcelwain - S04025

Offense: Animals / Ill treatment of animals in general,
torture

Offense Code: 2804

Code/Ordinance Sec: 47-01-0040(B)

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the
☐ County/ ☐ Municipality ofThe 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 Patrick Heard
on 9/19/25

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

Richland County General Sessions
1701 Main Street
P O Box 192
Columbia, SC 29202

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Richland / Lykesland Magistrate

Personally appeared before me the affiant

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant

did within this county and state on or about

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Animals / Ill treatment of animals in general, torture

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 April 20, 2024, in the county of Richland, one Patrick Oneal Heard did commit the crime of Animals / Ill treatment of animals in a wooded area near in Eastover, SC. On 04/24/2024 law enforcement personnel disrupted an active dogfight in a wooded area near this location. When law enforcement announced their presence, the spectators, including the def, who were watching the fight, fled. The def was arrested near the pit by law enforcement. The 2 dogs, a black dog and a tan dog continued fighting in the pit and were separated by law enforcement. The 2 dogs had been fighting for at least 10 minutes before law enforcement arrived. The black dog had numerous injuries from the dogfight he was involved in. Affiant and others are witness to prove same.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Richland / Lykesland Magistrate

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 4/20/2024 defendant Patrick Oneal Heard

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

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Richland / Lykesland Magistrate as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Animals / Ill treatment of animals in general, torture

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 10/22/2024

Signature of Issuing Judge
Barbara Jo Wofford-Kanwat (Magistrate)

Judge Code: 7271

(L.S.)

Judge's Address 1403 Caroline Road

Columbia, SC 29209-

Judge's Telephone (803)576-2500

Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

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

AFFIDAVIT

ARREST WARRANT

2024A4010600110

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Richland / Lykesland Magistrate

THE STATE

against

Patrick Oneal Heard

Address:

Elberton, GA 20635-

Phone: SSN: 6 2 Weight: 190

Sex: M Race: B Height: DL #: DOB: 1978 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Douglas G Mcelwain - S04025

Offense: Animals / Ill treatment of animals in general,
torture

Offense Code: 2804

Code/Ordinance Sec: 47-01-0040(B)

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the

☐ County/ ☐ Municipality ofThe 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 Patrick Heard
on 9/19/24

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

Richland County General Sessions
1701 Main Street
P O Box 192
Columbia, SC 29202

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Richland / Lykesland Magistrate

Personally appeared before me the affiant

Douglas G Mcelwain

who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant

Patrick Oneal Heard

did within this county and state on or about

4/20/2024

violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Richland / Lykesland Magistrate

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:

Animals / Ill treatment of animals in general, torture

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 April 20, 2024, in the county of Richland, one Patrick Oneal Heard did commit the crime of Animals / Ill treatment of animals in a wooded area near [REDACTED] in Eastover, SC. On 04/24/2024 law enforcement personnel disrupted an active dogfight in a wooded area near this location. When law enforcement announced their presence, the spectators, including the def, who were watching the fight, fled. The def was arrested near the pit by law enforcement. The 2 dogs, a black dog and a tan dog continued fighting in the pit and were separated by law enforcement. The 2 dogs had been fighting for at least 10 minutes before law enforcement arrived. The tan dog had numerous injuries from the dogfight he was involved in. Affiant and others are witness to prove same.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Richland / Lykesland Magistrate

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 4/20/2024

defendant Patrick Oneal Heard

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

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Richland / Lykesland Magistrate

) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE:

Animals / Ill treatment of animals in general, torture

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 10/22/2024

Signature of Issuing Judge

Barbara Jo Wofford-Kanwat (Magistrate)

Judge Code: 7271

(L.S.)

Judge's Address

1403 Caroline Road

Columbia, SC 29209-

Judge's Telephone

(803)576-2500

Issuing Court:

☒ Magistrate☐ Municipal☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL