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S.C. SUPREME COURT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

Appeal from Hampton County

Honorable Robert J. Bonds, Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

RONALD LYONS,

APPELLANT

APPELLATE CASE NO. 2022-000169

RECORD ON APPEAL

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COURT'S EXHIBIT #10 (TAPE FROM PRELIMINARY HEARING)

1 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Plexico, we
2 have a motion?
3 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, Your Honor. We have a
4 motion for specific performance that we're going
5 to hear this morning.
6 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
7 MR. PLEXICO: All the witnesses are here
8 and we have one that's going to go forward on --
9 you have our brief, Judge? You ready?
10 THE COURT: Yes, sir. Go ahead.
11 MS. JANOWSKI: Ronnie Lyons. This is only
12 for the purpose of the specific motion.
13 THE COURT: Come on here and we'll swear
14 you in.
15 THE CLERK: Raise your right hand and
16 place your hand on the Bible. Do you swear to the
17 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth
18 so help you God?
19 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.
20 THE CLERK: Have a seat.
21 THE COURT: Sir, good morning. For the
22 purpose of the testimony, if you'll pull your mask
23 down, please. Thank you.
24 Your witness, Mr. Plexico.
25 MR. PLEXICO: Thank you.

1 WHEREUPON:

2 RONALD LYONS,

3 after having been sworn, testified as follows:

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. PLEXICO:

6 Q March 14, 2019, what happened? Did you meet any

7 police officers?

8 A Yes, sir, I did. My memory, as I sit here

9 today, Jarrettt Maffatt had called, said his name

10 was Hunter. And I been dealing with them and felt

11 like he was a cop. Told him, I say, man, I know

12 you a cop so you might as well come get me. I'm

13 not going to run.

14 MS. JANOWSKI: I'm sorry. Can you speak

15 up a little bit?

16 THE COURT: See if you can scoot up a

17 little closer to the microphone. Perfect, sir.

18 Go ahead.

19 THE WITNESS: Jerry Maffatt called

20 himself Hunter at that time. I know him as

21 Hunter. His name is Jerry Maffatt. He called

22 trying to place -- trying to get me to get him

23 some more pills. I told him, I said, man I

24 already know you're the police. You might as well

25 come get me. I said, I'm not going to run. I'm

1 not the police. You come to me. Where you at. I
2 said, I'm about to pull in my mama's yard. You
3 know where I'm at. You know where my mom's house
4 is at. I said, come on and get me. I'm not going
5 to run. I pulled in the yard. He pulled in
6 behind me. I was driving somebody else's Honda
7 because my truck was at the transmission shop in
8 Beaufort at the time.
9 And when I pulled in, they got me. I got
10 out of the car. Told me to get in the back seat
11 of a little small SUV they was driving. Got into
12 the back seat. There was another cop sitting in
13 the vehicle. And I looked at him and I said, you
14 all going to -- he said, we're going to let you
15 work for us. The other two cops was popping the
16 gloves, putting gloves on about to search the car.
17 I had to basically tell them how to do their job.
18 If you-all are going to use me, then tell these
19 guys not to go search that car. If the neighbors
20 sees me, I live right on Main Street in Varnville.
21 The neighbors are going to see me. If they see
22 me, there goes your cover for using me for
23 anything. He told me -- he said, you think. Told
24 the two guys come on, don't search the car.
25 They took me to the woods to brief me. Must

have kept me in the woods for at least three hours.

BY MR. PLEXICO:

Q Who were you with in the woods?

A Jerry Maffett was there once we got to the woods. He wasn't in the vehicle when they got me. I want to say Mike Lawson, maybe. And the other SLED agents. I don't know their names.

Q Do you recognize him?

A Randall Risher.

Q Was he there?

A Yes, he was.

Q What did you-all talk about?

A Who all they wanted me to set up for them.

Q Who was that?

A They wanted John Anderson. They call him Big Mike around here in the county. Mike -- excuse my language. I don't fuck with Mike. I don't mess with him. I don't get no drugs from around here. If you-all want to know who I got, who I deal with, I'm glad to get them for you.

Q Who do you deal with?

A I went up to Florence several times. Got the dope. And then they -- I want to say Mr. Risher had called me Big Cat, if I remember correctly. Said that they wanted Big Mike. He's a big fish.

1 They wanted Mike. I didn't deal with Mike.
2 Q Why didn't you deal with Mike?
3 A I just never had to deal with Mike. He stays
4 in his own lane. I stay in mine.
5 Q You didn't have a basis to get Mike?
6 A Didn't have any basis. Courtney, she knew
7 Mike. She dealt with Mike. Like I told him, I
8 said, I said, I don't deal with that. They wanted
9 to know where Courtney was at when they got me. I
10 wouldn't tell them where Courtney was at because
11 when I left to go meet them, I left her, I told
12 her, stay here. I know it's the police, let me
13 deal with it. I left her right there. I wasn't
14 going to tell them where she was.
15 Q What did you tell them about your source?
16 A I told him to get my man.
17 Q Who was your man?
18 A Anthony -- I want to say it's Melton.
19 Q Melton. Is it Anthony Melton?
20 A His name is Melton. Amp is what I called
21 him, but I guess Melton. I believe that is his
22 name.
23 Q And did you make buys from Mr. Melton?
24 A Several. I made one buy that day. But I
25 must say, in the paperwork that you have with the

1 weight and all on it, the weight that they're
2 claiming I bought from him, that's not all -- a
3 lot of that is not accounted for on that list,
4 because I bought way more than that.
5 Q All right. So on the 14th, you made a buy; is
6 that correct?
7 A Yes.
8 THE COURT: 14th of what?
9 BY MR. PLEXICO:
10 Q March of 2019?
11 A Yes, sir.
12 Q Who supervised that?
13 A I guess Jarrett Maffett. Whoever --
14 Q Was he present?
15 A Yeah.
16 Q So you were working with Jarrett Maffett.
17 A We went down there, and we went to the park.
18 I went out Cashier. Cashier right 52 in Florence.
19 Q What happens at the park?
20 A I met up -- had a man that I know and trust.
21 He's also now a federal agent. I had him. I
22 called him because I could tell they was
23 incompetent. Excuse me saying so, but, I could
24 tell they were incompetent because I had to tell
25 him how to do the job at the house when they were

1 about to put on gloves and search the car but they
2 were going to use me as a CI and they were about
3 expose right there that I'm a CI. So I called him
4 and my friend called him.
5 Q What did they tell you? Why were you making drug
6 buys for them?
7 A They told me they were going to lock me up.
8 I wouldn't be charged if I worked for them.
9 Q What did tell you about warrants?
10 A They said there wasn't no warrants yet.
11 There was nothing on the paperwork, is exactly
12 what he said.
13 Q He said what?
14 A There was nothing on paperwork.
15 Q This is on March 14th; is that correct?
16 A Yes, sir.
17 Q All right.
18 MR. PLEXICO: Court's indulgence.
19 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
20 BY MR. PLEXICO:
21 Q All right. So you're aware of warrants that are
22 outstanding against you, correct?
23 A Yes, sir, very aware.
24 Q All right. And some of those warrants are marked
25 as 3/14; is that correct?

1 A Yes, sir.
2 Q Okay. So, those were not served on you at that
3 time; is that correct?
4 A Correct.
5 Q All right. So -- and what did you do on 3/18?
6 Did you make another buy on 3/18?
7 A I want to say I made three or four different
8 buys in Florence.
9 Q From who?
10 A From Amp.
11 Q Okay.
12 A They went to him and got me to stack the
13 cases instead of locking me up and getting what I
14 got you.
15 Q So this is your understanding of how it works,
16 that they stack the cases up and then they bust you?
17 A Yeah. I mean, clearly, they could have got
18 me after the first sale that Courtney made because
19 they charged me with the same five charges they
20 charged her with, but they allegedly saw guns in
21 my vehicle which was the date that she sold it.
22 And I got her same drugs charges. She didn't get
23 the same gun charges, but they was in the same
24 vehicle. I didn't touch the dope. She sold it to
25 them. It's like doing things their own way.

1 Q Describe the deal as it was made to you? What did
2 you have to do in return for them -- you not seeing
3 any warrants?
4 A He told me that if I work for them,
5 cooperated, do what they wanted me to do, then I'm
6 not going to jail. I'm making the buys. I keep
7 asking them, when is this enough? You know, you
8 got to get -- right before I got locked up, I had
9 found out my license was suspended. It was for
10 arrears child support which was dropped by my
11 daughter's mom back in 2005, I want to say. But I
12 owed arrears on it. They suspended my license for
13 it. I didn't know it was suspended.
14 I got pulled over by a state trooper on my
15 way back from Bamberg. When I got pulled over, the
16 state trooper let us go. I called Jarrett and I told
17 him and he said, you got to make these buys and you
18 got to get somebody here in Varnville.
19 Q Did you get somebody in Varnville?
20 A Yeah.
21 Q Who did you get in Varnville?
22 A They made me get some -- a woman that my mama
23 worked down at Lowcountry Seafood.
24 Q Who was this?
25 A A woman named Terri Lynn.

1 Q All right. Who is Terri Lynn? Do you know her
2 last name? Is it Deloach?
3 A I think Johnson, maybe, I don't know.
4 Q All right. Now -- and who was her boyfriend?
5 A They called her boyfriend Mondo.
6 Q All right, Mondo. Who were you supposed to buy
7 from?
8 A They wanted me to get dope from Mondo. Mondo
9 was out of town. I met him to get -- we met at
10 the meeting spot where we was meeting in
11 Varnville -- the old shooting range back near the
12 school. This is two o'clock and school was
13 getting out and there was plenty of people seeing
14 what's going on. I mean, coming out of the woods.
15 Or I go to the woods to meet them. And when I get
16 there, they was mad because I had Courtney with
17 me. They told us from the start, everything that
18 I did, counted for Courtney as well.
19 And when I get to the woods, Jarrett Maffett
20 tells me she can't go. She's a fucking junky and I
21 even told her that before. She's got to stay in the
22 woods. Sir, I said, I'm not leaving her in the woods.
23 I live right down the road. I'll take her home. I
24 took her home to my mom's house. When I got to my
25 mom's house, I went back. Told her I was going to be

1 back. I went back to the woods. Got the money from
2 Jarrett. Went to Teri-Lynn's. I think they bought
3 seven grams from her that day. I accidentally dropped
4 the bag in her yard. Get back, pull out the dope and
5 money, because I had extra money left from what they
6 gave me. I only got seven grams. When I pulled it
7 out, the dope was in my pocket, instantly, I called
8 Terri Lynn. Go out in the yard. She went out in the
9 yard. She found it. They let me go back. I went
10 back to the house, got the dope.
11 Q Who did you get the dope from at the house?
12 A Terri Lynn.
13 Q So the sale is still good?
14 A The sale is still good. I mean, I got the
15 pill press on video for them and everything as
16 well.
17 Q All right. And were you made aware -- when you
18 made the buys from Amp, Anthony Melton, in Florence,
19 were you wearing video then?
20 A Yes, sir.
21 Q And did you perform as they requested and returned
22 the drugs unmolested and unopened to the SLED agent?
23 A Yes, sir. They searched me every time as
24 well. And told me, good job. That's a good buy
25 That was a good buy. The day I went and got

1 Terri Lynn, instead of giving me a hat or the key
2 chain, any type of device like that, they went
3 back to the old way of taping a wire to me. And
4 the tape they used was a clear Scotch tape where
5 it fell off of me. That's why I dropped the bag
6 of dope in the yard. I was trying to keep the
7 thing from falling so it wouldn't fall off on me.
8 Q And they didn't do --
9 A No. It was like they intentionally wanted to
10 expose what was going on.
11 Q They didn't set up the device professionally in
12 your buy?
13 A They didn't do nothing professional.
14 Q Now, did they ever search your house?
15 A Yeah, they searched the house.
16 Q And who was at your house when they searched it?
17 A My mama.
18 Q Is this your mother sitting here?
19 A That's my mom.
20 Q And who else was there?
21 A That's not my most favorite person in the
22 world, but that's my sister.
23 Q Okay. Was she there?
24 A Yes, sir.
25 Q All right. And what were they telling you inside

1 the house?
2 A They searched the house and I had to
3 coordinate this for them, too. Jarrett, as soon I
4 seen Jarrett and a black guy, a big black guy, I
5 said, when we get there, I got several boxes with
6 speakers in them, I said, to make it look like we
7 come for something. When you go to leave, big
8 black man take the box speakers with him. And the
9 Honda was at the house. So you-all take this back
10 to the woods, the white guy can get in the car
11 with me and Courtney, because Courtney was at the
12 house. When we got there and walked in there and
13 saw -- the first person I see is Courtney. I
14 said, damn, Courtney, meet SLED. Why didn't you
15 stay where I told you to stay.
16 Well, the girl -- well, before we left the
17 house, mama, she was upset. She was crying. They
18 searched the house.
19 Q Were they talking about the warrants at the
20 house?
21 A He told her I had charges. I had drug
22 charges and whatnot. He said that --
23 Q Did she ask them if you were going to jail?
24 A Yeah, she was crying.
25 Q What did they tell her?

1 A She was very hysterical. They, Maffett, told
2 my mother, calm down. He's going to jail. You
3 taking him to jail. She was, like, balling and
4 crying. He told her, he said, no. He said,
5 they're not going to jail. As long as they work
6 and cooperate with us and do what we want, they
7 will not be getting charged. We say Jarrett said
8 some shit about us not being the big fish. They
9 wanted a big fish. We weren't nothing. They
10 wanted a big fish. We were not going to jail as
11 long as we worked with them. Hell, I worked with
12 them.
13 Q When did you finally get arrested?
14 A The 1st of May. The 1st of May I want to
15 say.
16 Q All right. Did you make any other buys for them.
17 A I made four -- I want to say it was four buys
18 in Florence, and Terri Lynn. I told her, I said,
19 my mama works for Terri Lynn. I don't mess with
20 anybody in Varnville. They wanted VI, because,
21 VI, he didn't answer the phone. They didn't want
22 to really. They didn't want to mess with anybody
23 in Varnville. I'm not proud of being a snitch at
24 all regardless. When it came down to my life and
25 me never seeing my kids, or the girl that I love,

1 still do love her, we have issues, I did what I
2 had to do.
3 And then they didn't honor their part of
4 the deal. They put me in jail. I'm exposed as a
5 snitch. I'm beat. I damn near lose my life in
6 jail. And then the State makes sure I go back to
7 jail. I about died in there.
8 MR. PLEXICO: May I approach the witness,
9 Your Honor?
10 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
11 BY MR. PLEXICO:
12 Q Do you recognize these medicals?
13 MS. JANOWSKI: Your Honor, can we have
14 the other witnesses that are going to be speaking
15 sequestered out of the courtroom, please, if he
16 plans to call them?
17 THE COURT: I think that's fine.
18 MS. JANOWSKI: This is my first time
19 seeing this.
20 THE COURT: I think that's adequate. You
21 all just wait outside or downstairs. Somebody
22 will come find you when it's time for you to
23 testify. Thank you, ma'am.
24 MS. JANOWSKI: Your Honor, after a
25 brief -- you know, this is a lot of stuff that I

1 haven't had the opportunity to look at. And this
2 is from August. He went to -- was arrested in
3 May. I just don't see the relevance of these
4 injuries. Also, we don't know how these occurred.
5 We can hear how he's saying they occurred, but
6 I've had an officer tell me they have heard for a
7 different reason, because he was kidding around in
8 teaching to choke each other out in jail. That's
9 where I'm at.
10 THE COURT: All right.
11 MS. JANOWSKI: I mean, it just doesn't
12 seem relevant to me.
13 THE COURT: I'm going to overrule. I'm
14 going to offer that. Ask if he identifies it.
15 I'm going to overrule your objection. Thank
16 you.
17 MS. JANOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
18 BY MR. PLEXICO:
19 Q Are these your medical records?
20 A It appears to be, sir.
21 Q May I have them? Thank you.
22 All right. Now, what happened to you of
23 significance at the jail related to your undercover
24 work for the police.
25 MR. PLEXICO: I'm going to make this a

1 court's exhibit, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

3 (COURT EXH. 1, Jail medical records, was

4 marked for identification.)

5 THE WITNESS: I guess -- if you-all will

6 bear with me. This is part of the trial, so I got

7 time to explain.

8 BY MR. PLEXICO:

9 Q Yes. Go ahead.

10 A When I got locked up --

11 Q When is this now?

12 A On the day I got locked up, on May 1st they

13 didn't lock Courtney up that day. Although, I

14 couldn't talk to her for two months, they had a

15 phone recording with Jarrett Maffett. He told

16 Courtney he's got 21 felony charges and you still

17 got five charges, and you're going to answer for

18 them tonight. She went and made a buy for him

19 that night, which made them use that and they said

20 that hurt her, said the solicitors, or whatever it

21 is.

22 MS. JANOWSKI: Objection, Your Honor.

23 What's the relevance to what another buy --

24 THE WITNESS: Because it's all --

25 THE COURT: Sir? Sir, you don't -- when

1 she makes an objection --

2 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, sir.

3 THE COURT: Sir, I don't want you to tell

4 me you're sorry. I want you to listen to me.

5 You're quiet. I'll make a ruling. And then at

6 some point your lawyer will continue to ask you a

7 question. Okay?

8 Yes, ma'am. What's your objection?

9 MS. JANOWSKI: It's hearsay. It's not

10 relevant. It's not him. He wasn't there. He

11 didn't see any of this.

12 THE COURT: Mr. Plexico, you need to

13 rephrase.

14 MR. PLEXICO: Okay.

15 BY MR. PLEXICO:

16 Q All right. What happened to you at the jail?

17 A The guy that they wanted, Big Mike --

18 Q Yes.

19 A -- they wanted his cousin or his blood

20 partner, blood friends, he was doing 18 years for

21 manslaughter charges, murder/manslaughter, doing

22 18 years. He's involved in a prison riot. He

23 came back to the jail on a PCR. And I don't know

24 why a PCR makes him be held at the jail for months

25 and months and months when he should be getting

1 out. But they had him housed in a unit with us
2 instead of sequestered, I guess you would say, by
3 hisself. They had him in the open unit with us.
4 And I don't know why -- on the morning, I was
5 supposed to call my mom that afternoon because we had
6 three-way and talked to my mom and Courtney and didn't
7 get a call back.
8 The next thing I know, I woke up and I was in
9 Charleston jail and didn't know what happened. They
10 said when I got up to go to the door -- this is what
11 people told me when I come back there, the Hampton
12 jail. When the COVID started -- I got up to go toward
13 the phone and when I did, he come back to make a
14 courtesy call to his lawyer. That's what my paperwork
15 says on my lawyer. I guess he got the video from
16 Hampton jail. He said I come back in and I was
17 walking toward the door and he just hit me. Knocked
18 me out. Never had a word.
19 Q What did your head hit?
20 A My head hit the concrete.
21 Q What was the injury that resulted from that?
22 A I had a subdermal hematoma. That's what a
23 brain bleed is. They said, when he was pounding
24 me -- they said, he pounded me for, like, two
25 minutes while I was unconscious and my head was

1 bouncing like a basketball on the concrete.
2 MS. JANOWSKI: Your Honor. This is
3 hearsay. He was passed out. How does he know his
4 head was bouncing.
5 THE COURT: Sir?
6 THE WITNESS: Sorry.
7 THE COURT: Hold on. I've warned you
8 twice. I've warned you twice, sir. You
9 understand that?
10 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
11 THE COURT: All right. I'm going to
12 sustain the objection.
13 MR. PLEXICO: Okay.
14 MS. JANOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
15 BY MR. PLEXICO:
16 Q But were you injured as a result of your work as a
17 CI?
18 A Yes.
19 Q Was that detrimental to you?
20 A Yeah.
21 Q All right. Did you rely on the word of
22 Officer Maffett and the other officers that you would
23 not be going to jail and you would not see any
24 warrants?
25 A I relied on them 150 percent.

1 Q And, as a result of that, did you provide them
2 with significant intelligence about drug dealings in
3 South Carolina?
4 A Yes, I did.
5 Q And did you go to multiple counties and make drug
6 buys for him?
7 A Yes, I did.
8 Q Did you buy large quantities of drugs each time
9 for them?
10 A Yes, sir.
11 Q All right.
12 MR. PLEXICO: I've asked the State, since
13 obviously it goes to mitigation, if nothing else,
14 Judge, it goes to the core of his performance for
15 the State to bring the drugs that he bought, and I
16 would like to introduce them into evidence now. I
17 assume they have them and they didn't throw them
18 away because I've asked for the drugs to be
19 brought here which were in the State's custody.
20 THE COURT: You've asked for what?
21 MR. PLEXICO: For the drugs that he
22 bought. He bought the drugs multiple times. I've
23 asked that they be brought here because it goes to
24 the heart of his specific performance motion.
25 THE COURT: You've asked the State to

1 bring the drugs?
2 MR. PLEXICO: They were here earlier.
3 MS. JANOWSKI: Court's indulgence, Your
4 Honor.
5 MS. MUSSER: Your Honor, we'll make those
6 available. If we can just have the Court's
7 indulgence for a moment.
8 Your Honor, may Agent Maffett step into
9 the courtroom with the drugs right now? Is he
10 sequestered or not?
11 THE COURT: Is that all right,
12 Mr. Plexico?
13 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, Your Honor.
14 THE COURT: All right.
15 MS. MUSSER: He's coming, Your Honor.
16 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Plexico, he's
17 brought the drugs in.
18 Now, Mr. Plexico, I take it that if
19 you're touching this that you're not going to be
20 interfering with or later claim that there's any
21 breach of the chain of custody.
22 MR. PLEXICO: No, Your Honor. This is
23 only the drugs he bought for them. Not the drugs
24 in this case.
25 THE COURT: All right. Go ahead.

1 MR. PLEXICO: Thank you.

2 MS. JANOWSKI: Your Honor, can we have a

3 couple minutes to get the drugs separated?

4 THE COURT: Sure. Take your time.

5 Mr. Plexico, apparently, the other witness

6 that you want to call via Webex --

7 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: -- is on not listening, but

9 is on. So if you want to call her next, she's

10 there, okay?

11 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, Your Honor.

12 While they're doing that --

13 THE COURT: Let's wait a second. Let's

14 let them finish.

15 Counsel, have you had a chance to

16 organize and look at the evidence?

17 MS. JANOWSKI: Yes, Your Honor. We're

18 arguing that. We're willing to stipulate that he

19 made buys for law enforcement and we have the

20 officers here to talk about it.

21 THE COURT: Go ahead, Mr. Plexico.

22 MR. PLEXICO: Thank you.

23 BY MR. PLEXICO:

24 Q Do you recognize these packages? Are these the

25 drugs that you made buys for?

1 A Yes. Where did that come from, Terri Lynn?
2 Q 3/27.
3 A That's not all of it.
4 Q That's not all of it. Is this part of it?
5 A Yeah, some of it.
6 Q All right.
7 MR. PLEXICO: I'd move to make this
8 Court's Exhibit 2, 3, and 4 now. Publish this to
9 His Honor. Show you the great quantity that --
10 would you like to hold these and see these?
11 THE COURT: Sure.
12 (COURT EXH. 2, Drugs, was marked for
13 identification.)
14 (COURT EXH. 3, Drugs, was marked for
15 identification.)
16 (COURT EXH. 4, Drugs, was marked for
17 identification.)
18 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, sir.
19 THE WITNESS: May I say something about
20 the drugs, Mr. Plexico?
21 BY MR. PLEXICO:
22 Q Is there anything unique about the drugs that you
23 wanted to mention?
24 A I could easily say that 3/14 is not me. That
25 is not in there. That's the first buy we did, or

1 I did.

2 MR. PLEXICO: I'm make these Court's

3 Exhibit 2, 3, and 4.

4 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

5 BY MR. PLEXICO:

6 Q And do you recognize these texts?

7 MR. PLEXICO: May I approach?

8 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

9 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh.

10 BY MR. PLEXICO:

11 Q Who are those texts between?

12 A He and I.

13 MR. PLEXICO: I'll make these Court's

14 Exhibits 5, 6, 7, and 8.

15 (COURT EXH. 5, Text, was marked for

16 identification.)

17 (COURT EXH. 6, Text, was marked for

18 identification.)

19 (COURT EXH. 7, Text, was marked for

20 identification.)

21 (COURT EXH. 8, Text, was marked for

22 identification.)

23 MR. PLEXICO: May I publish these to

24 Your Honor?

25 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

1 BY MR. PLEXICO:
2 Q So these are proof that you were working with Amp;
3 is that correct?
4 A That's on the 14th, the first day I was
5 busted.
6 Q On that day, that's proof?
7 A Yes, sir.
8 Q All right.
9 A I wasn't there for that day on that day.
10 Q Were you called any names while you were at the
11 county jail?
12 A Yeah.
13 Q What were you called?
14 A Fucking snitch?
15 Q F'ing snitch?
16 A Fucking snitch. Excuse my language, ma'am.
17 MR. PLEXICO: These are 5, 6, 7, and 8.
18 BY MR. PLEXICO:
19 Q Is that before you were attacked?
20 A Uh-huh.
21 Q I can't hear you.
22 A Yes, sir. They called me a snitch. They
23 knew it before I got locked up. When Courtney
24 tried to do the work that she tried to do for them
25 and they called her off from meeting with Mike,

she was waiting on Mike, and SLED told her abort mission. Abort, abort, we'll send him in. They called her off. And then she met him at my house. Caused an avalanche at my mother's house. Got her and they brought her to jail. They said it was coming from above to do it anyway. If you was going to lock us anyway, why use us. And, basically, she was telling people we are snitching in jail 20 minutes after you're supposed to be meeting a big-time known dope owner they wanted so bad killed over in Hampton County, but they didn't want to get him evidently. Speculation or assumptions or something. They made asses out of us. But, to me, it seems like the person that they said they want to so bad, they don't get them because maybe you-all in bed with them. I don't have a clue. That's what it seems like me being educated about it.

Q If you don't have a clue, please don't testify about it.

A I'm sorry.

Q Okay.

MR. PLEXICO: Court's indulgence.

THE COURT: Yes, sir.

BY MR. PLEXICO:

1 Q So you were out from 3/14 until May 1st working on
2 and off for SLED, is that correct, and their other
3 agents?
4 A Anytime they called me. You must produce.
5 Q So you relied on them?
6 A Yes, sir.
7 Q And you were injured and called a snitch over
8 it?
9 MS. JANOWSKI: Objection, Your Honor.
10 He's leading the witness.
11 THE COURT: Overruled.
12 BY MR. PLEXICO:
13 Q All right.
14 MR. PLEXICO: I don't have anything
15 further for this witness.
16 THE COURT: Cross-examine.
17 MS. JANOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
18 MR. PLEXICO: We call Courtney Lane next,
19 Judge.
20 THE COURT: Oh, she's going to
21 cross-examine him.
22 MR. PLEXICO: Oh, I'm sorry.
23 CROSS-EXAMINATION
24 BY MS. JANOWSKI:
25 Q Mr. Lyons, you said that the agents promised you

1 that you would do no jail time as a result of acting
2 as a confidential informant?
3 A Yes. That's exactly what they said. They
4 said had been filed. And as long as you
5 cooperate, none will be filed.
6 Q What was the location where these promises were
7 made?
8 A They said it at our house. At my mother's
9 house in Varnville. I can't tell you the exact
10 date. I don't remember it.
11 Q So you're saying they made these promises to you
12 at your mother's house. Were you inside or outside?
13 A Inside the house.
14 Q Okay. Who all was present when these promises
15 were made?
16 A My mom, my sister, Courtney, one of my
17 nieces. She was a baby at the time. My dad and
18 myself.
19 Q What about law enforcement?
20 A Jarrett Maffett. I don't know the other
21 one's name.
22 Q Can you describe him to me? It was another
23 agent?
24 A Muscular.
25 Q Big guy?

1 A Yeah.
2 Q Did you ever turn over or give them access to a
3 pill press, law enforcement?
4 A No.
5 Q Did you ever sign a cooperation agreement with the
6 solicitor's office?
7 A The solicitor's office?
8 Q Prosecutor's office.
9 A They told us that CI work was confidential.
10 Q So you didn't sign a cooperation agreement with
11 the solicitor's office.
12 A I signed something with the guy. I think it
13 was if anything happened to us or something -- I'm
14 not exactly sure what it was, what you call it.
15 But I didn't never meet with the solicitor's
16 office, no, ma'am.
17 Q So you never met with the solicitor's office.
18 A No. I was told by them that we could not
19 talk to anyone about it because we actually --
20 Courtney asked if we could talk to a lawyer. They
21 told us, said, no, ma'am. No, you can't. No,
22 ma'am.
23 Q So you and your attorney never met with the
24 solicitor's office?
25 A No, ma'am.

1 Q And you stayed out of jail from February until
2 May?
3 A Got locked up in May.
4 Q Doing CI work from that February to May?
5 A No.
6 Q Or from March to May?
7 A Correct.
8 Q Were you abusing illegal drugs at the time that
9 you sold drugs to Agent Maffett back in the February
10 28, 2019?
11 A I overdosed, yes.
12 Q Okay. So you were abusing drugs at the time you
13 decided to be a CI, made the decision to be a CI?
14 A Yes, ma'am. I overdosed two days before they
15 come in on me. The day before they come in on me
16 and they took me to Hampton Hospital. I was there
17 45 minutes and he hit me with Narcan three or four
18 times.
19 Q You said that was two days before the --
20 A Before they come in on me in March.
21 Q In March.
22 A He asked, let me start working for him.
23 Q Do you remember everything that happened when you
24 were abusing illegal drugs more than several years
25 ago?

1 A What do you mean?
2 Q Do you remember all the details of everything that
3 happened? You were OD'ing when you're saying that you
4 were making decisions to work for law enforcement, you
5 were saying to make buys. Were you, at that time,
6 using illegal drugs. I mean, you said you OD'd two
7 days before they came for you. So, during all this
8 time, were you abusing from February until May in that
9 time frame? You OD'd in March, so that whole time
10 frame were you abusing illegal drugs?
11 A Yes, ma'am. I was using drugs.
12 MS. JANOWSKI: Court's indulgence.
13 No further questions.
14 THE COURT: All right.
15 MR. PLEXICO: Very briefly, Judge.
16 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
17 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
18 BY MR. PLEXICO:
19 Q How could you make sales if you didn't use drugs?
20 How could you make buys if you didn't use drugs?
21 A If I got dope in my eyes, I believe I would
22 get scared and he wouldn't fuck with me. Excuse
23 me.
24 MR. PLEXICO: Okay.
25 THE COURT: Anything further?

1 MS. JANOWSKI: Nothing further,
2 Your Honor.
3 THE COURT: Thank you, sir. You can step
4 down.
5 All right. Are we ready?
6 MS. JANOWSKI: Just for the record,
7 Your Honor, the documentation that you have from
8 the medical records, I'm just going to object to
9 their authenticity. There's emails mixed in
10 there. There's written statements mixed in there.
11 I haven't had the opportunity to fully look at
12 them to know what it says, so I just object to
13 them being exhibits for Your Honor.
14 THE COURT: All right. I'll note your
15 objection for the record.
16 MS. JANOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
17 THE COURT: Mr. Plexico, are we ready to
18 go on the Webex meeting for your next witness?
19 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, Your Honor. I'm
20 trying to open it up now.
21 THE COURT: Miss Ferguson?
22 MISS LANE: This is Courtney Lane.
23 THE COURT: Courtney Lane. I'm sorry.
24 Okay.
25 What we're going to do, Mr. Plexico, is,

1 basically my clerk is, kind of, going to be the
2 instructor here, so basically she's going to turn
3 me on, then mute me, turn you on, so that we don't
4 have the feedback problems.
5 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, sir. I will ask the
6 question and then mute. I believe that's the
7 proper --
8 THE COURT: She'll do everything. Is
9 that right? You don't worry about everything.
10 She'll do everything.
11 MR. PLEXICO: I have mine on mute or
12 unmute?
13 THE COURT: Mr. Plexico, come on around
14 here.
15 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, sir.
16 THE COURT: All right. Now, your
17 witness -- the witness you're calling is
18 Miss Lane?
19 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, Your Honor.
20 THE COURT: Miss Lane, can you hear me?
21 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
22 THE COURT: Miss Lane, raise your right
23 hand for me. Do you swear to tell the truth, the
24 whole truth, and nothing but the truth so help you
25 God?

1 THE COURT: All right, Miss Lane. Go
2 ahead. Your witness, sir.
3 WHEREUPON:
4 COURTNEY LANE,
5 after being sworn, testified as follows:
6 DIRECT EXAMINATION
7 BY MR. PLEXICO:
8 Q Where were you on March 14, 2019?
9 A First, I was at Brandon Mill's house, and
10 then I was at Ronnie's house.
11 Q All right. Who was at Ronnie's house?
12 A I was there waiting on him and he walked in
13 with the two SLED agents, Jarrett Maffett and I
14 don't know the other one's name. He's the large
15 guy. I think it's like Risher or Risher,
16 something like that.
17 Q Randall Risher, would that be it?
18 A He's the really tall black guy, bald head, I
19 think. Real big.
20 Q Big man, all right. What happened there?
21 A Well, I was under the impression that Jarrett
22 was somebody named Hunter, and when they came in
23 they let me know that they were SLED agents.
24 Q Did you have any drug dealings with Hunter prior
25 to that date or SLED agent Maffett, aka Hunter?

1 A Yes.
2 Q Okay.
3 A I had two dealings with him.
4 Q Prior to this?
5 A Prior to that date, yes.
6 Q Okay. All right. Were you arrested that day?
7 A No, sir.
8 Q All right. Who was inside the house, Ronnie's
9 house? Was that his mom's house?
10 A Yes, sir. It was me, Ronnie, when he walked
11 in with the SLED agent, his sister Samantha, his
12 mom Miss Joanne, and his dad was in there. And
13 one of his nieces. I'm not sure if it's the
14 youngest one or the older one. I'm not sure which
15 niece it was.
16 Q Okay.
17 A But I know for a fact that dad, mom, and
18 sister were in there.
19 Q Was there any discussion of warrants?
20 A No, sir.
21 Q Okay. All right. Were there any promises made to
22 you?
23 A Yes, sir. We were told that if we cooperated
24 that no charges would be filed.
25 Q All right. Did you know that charges had already

1 been -- warrants had already been signed?
2 A No, sir. Because they actually had said that
3 part of the deal was no jail time. And later on
4 they told us that once they sign a warrant there's
5 no going back. So once a warrant was out, we went
6 to jail. That's how they explained it to us.
7 Q But you weren't taken to jail even though a
8 warrant was out for you?
9 A We were not taken to jail. We did not know
10 about a warrant.
11 Q All right. So was there a deal cut?
12 A Yes, sir.
13 Q As a result of that deal, what did you do?
14 A We went straight to Florence that day.
15 Q Who is "we"?
16 A To set somebody up.
17 Q Who is "we"?
18 A Me and Ronnie and Hunter and Randall.
19 Q All right. And did you know who you set up?
20 A I know him by the name of Amp. I don't know
21 his real name.
22 Q All right. What was the amount of drugs you-all
23 bought?
24 A I know that there was heroin. And I believe
25 there was some meth bought, but I know the

1 majority of it was heroin.
2 Q All right. Did you go and make another buy?
3 A I wasn't with them on the second buy. They
4 told me I had to stay out of it because I was a
5 liability. So I was dropped off at Walmart up
6 here in Florence. No, that was the third time.
7 Sorry.
8 The second time we came up to Lake City, and
9 I stayed at his dad's house with Ronnie's mom and dad.
10 And then Ronnie had to go meet with Jarrett again.
11 Q That was the second time. So the third time?
12 A The third time, that's when we came back up
13 here and I got dropped off at the Walmart. And I
14 was dropped off at that Walmart for hours.
15 Several hours.
16 Q And then Ronnie was with Mr. Maffatt?
17 A Ronnie went to meet with Jarrett.
18 Q All right. Okay. Did Agent Maffett tell you that
19 your cooperation was helping you?
20 A Yes, sir. He said that, because -- they
21 didn't want me to do it because I was a liability,
22 that whatever work one of us did would help the
23 other. Every buy that Ronnie made was supposed to
24 benefit me. And then when they needed me, it was
25 supposed to benefit him.

1 Q And as a result of your cooperation, what happened
2 to your charges?
3 A They stood. I got charged.
4 Q And what happened? Have your charges been
5 resolved?
6 A Mine?
7 Q Yes.
8 A Well, I took a plea. I went to jail and I
9 took a plea.
10 Q Did your plea involved any prison time?
11 A No, sir. It was suspended to probation. It
12 was 10 years suspended to 30 months probation.
13 Q All right. And you're serving that probation
14 now?
15 A That's correct.
16 Q All right. So they fulfilled their deal by not
17 sending you to prison?
18 A That's right.
19 Q And you're concern -- and you relied on that deal;
20 is that correct?
21 A Sir?
22 Q Did you rely on their word that you wouldn't be --
23 A Yeah, and I was under the impression that we
24 wouldn't be going to jail at all.
25 Q All right. So they halfway performed their part

1 of the deal?
2 A That's right.
3 Q Okay. And what was the level of danger in regards
4 to making -- were you-all wired up?
5 MS. JANOWSKI: Objection, Your Honor.
6 Why is this relevant?
7 THE COURT: Hold on.
8 MS. JANOWSKI: This isn't relevant.
9 THE WITNESS: I was not wired up.
10 THE COURT: Ma'am, hold on one second.
11 Go ahead.
12 MS. JANOWSKI: I'm sorry, Your Honor, I'm
13 just going to have to object to the relevance of
14 what her level of danger has anything to do with
15 what we're for for the defendant.
16 THE COURT: All right. I'm going to
17 overrule you.
18 Go ahead, sir.
19 MR. PLEXICO: All right.
20 BY MR. PLEXICO:
21 Q Were you-all wired up when you went to make the
22 drug buys?
23 A I was not wired up. And I said, I only went
24 one time with Ronnie. But they had the phone that
25 records. That's what they had in the car with us.

1 And then whenever I did my buys after they locked
2 Ronnie up, they sent me with the phone as well.
3 Q Okay. What was your level of making drug buys for
4 the State of South Carolina?
5 A I would say, one out of 10, 10 being the
6 highest, I would say a 10.
7 Q Okay. So you put yourself in great danger by
8 participating in drug buys for the State?
9 A Yes, sir. Yes, sir.
10 Q And you were in reliance of the State; is that
11 correct?
12 A That's correct.
13 Q And you were in reliance of the promises made by
14 the State's agents; is that correct?
15 A That's correct.
16 Q Answer any questions --
17 MR. PLEXICO: Just Court's indulgence.
18 Let me check with my client.
19 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
20 MR. PLEXICO: Thank you, Miss Lane,
21 answer any questions the prosecutor has for you.
22 THE COURT: Solicitor, do you have any
23 questions?
24 MS. JANOWSKI: Yes, sir, Your Honor?
25 THE COURT: All right.

1 CROSS-EXAMINATION

2 BY MS. JANOWSKI:

3 Q Hey, Miss Lane. How are you?

4 A Hi. How are you?

5 Q I just have a couple of -- well, really, just

6 mainly one question: You only went on one buy with

7 Ronnie, right?

8 A That's correct.

9 Q And all of your other buys were separate?

10 A Right.

11 Q Okay. And are you aware that you have several

12 previous convictions of crimes of dishonesty to

13 include forgery, grand larceny, petty larceny?

14 A I'm aware of my record, yes.

15 MS. JANOWSKI: Thank you. I have no

16 further questions.

17 MR. PLEXICO: Very briefly.

18 THE COURT: Hold on one second, ma'am.

19 Not the solicitor. I'm sorry.

20 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. PLEXICO:

22 Q Miss Lane?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q What did you use the proceeds of those crimes --

25 what did you spend the proceeds of those crimes on?

1 A Drugs.
2 Q Okay. And you're in rehab now?
3 A Yes, sir.
4 Q How long have you been in rehab?
5 A Four months.
6 Q Okay. Have you changed -- have you turned your
7 life around?
8 A Oh, yeah.
9 Q Are using any drugs?
10 A No, sir.
11 Q Have you used any drugs in the last four months?
12 A No, sir.
13 Q Are you clear-headed today?
14 A Very.
15 MR. PLEXICO: Thank you.
16 THE COURT: Solicitor, anything further?
17 MS. JANOWSKI: No questions, Your
18 Honor.
19 THE COURT: All right. Ma'am, thank you
20 so much for your testimony. And if you were under
21 any subpoena at this point, I'm releasing you from
22 that. Okay. Good luck with your
23 rehabilitation.
24 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
25 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am. Bye-bye.

1 MR. PLEXICO: Next, Your Honor, I would
2 call Samantha Gore. She's right outside.
3 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
4 MR. PLEXICO: Would you call Samantha
5 Gore, please, Mr. Deputy?
6 The defense calls Samantha Gore.
7 THE COURT: All right.
8 THE CLERK: All right. Raise your right
9 hand. Do you solemnly swear or affirm to tell the
10 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth
11 so help you God?
12 THE WITNESS: Yes.
13 WHEREUPON:
14 SAMANTHA GORE,
15 after having been sworn, testified as follows:
16 DIRECT EXAMINATION
17 BY MR. PLEXICO:
18 Q Would you take your mask off and pull up close to
19 the microphone, because I know you're quiet.
20 What's your name for the record, ma'am?
21 A Samantha Lyons Gore.
22 Q Okay. On March 14, 2019, where were you at?
23 A At my mom's.
24 Q Who is your mom?
25 A Joanne Lyons.

1 Q And do you know the young man sitting there?
2 A That's my brother.
3 Q Is that Ronald Lyons?
4 A Yes, sir.
5 Q Okay. Did Agent Maffett come in your house that
6 day?
7 A Yes, sir.
8 Q All right. What happened?
9 A When they walked in, my brother walked in
10 first and they come in behind me, and I assumed
11 they were police and they started searching
12 everything.
13 Q All right. Did your mom come home?
14 A Yes, because I called her. She was at
15 work.
16 Q Okay. All right. And were you listening to the
17 conversation?
18 A Yes, I was.
19 Q Was Agent Maffett talking?
20 A Jarrett was. I don't know his last name.
21 Q Is that the one they used to call Hunter?
22 A Yes, sir.
23 Q You met him as Hunter?
24 A I didn't know him until that day.
25 Q Until that day, all right.

1 And did your mom talk to Agent Maffett in
2 your presence?
3 A He was talking to pretty much all of us that
4 were there.
5 Q Okay. And what was Agent Maffett saying?
6 A My mama asked if they were going it jail, and
7 he stated that they wouldn't be going to jail.
8 That there wasn't any charges, anything on
9 paper.
10 Q I'm sorry.
11 A As long as they were doing what he wanted
12 them to do.
13 Q Okay, buy drugs for them.
14 A Yeah.
15 Q All right. So that was the deal that you heard,
16 that they bought -- if Ronnie and Courtney bought
17 drugs for them, they wouldn't going to jail?
18 A He didn't say drugs. He said work for them.
19 That they were small fish. They were after a big
20 fish.
21 Q Okay. All right. So did he say -- did he have
22 any warrants with him?
23 A No, sir.
24 Q Did he say anything unusual about the warrants?
25 A No, sir.

1 Q So you saw no warrants?
2 A He told my mama there wasn't anything
3 there.
4 Q Did your mom move after that?
5 A Yes, sir.
6 Q Why did your mom move?
7 A Because she was scared for her life.
8 Q Why was she scared for her life?
9 A Because my brother had to set up somebody
10 that she worked with.
11 Q Okay. And did that endanger your family?
12 A I was scared for a while, yeah.
13 Q All right. And --
14 A And my boyfriend was also a state trooper at
15 the time, so I wasn't so worried as to where my
16 mom would have to worry.
17 Q Is he home all the time?
18 A Not now. Now, he is. He wasn't then.
19 Q Do you-all have children together?
20 A Yes, sir.
21 Q Okay.
22 MR. PLEXICO: I don't have anything else.
23 THE COURT: All right. Cross-examine.
24 MS. JANOWSKI: Court's indulgence.
25 BY MS. JANOWSKI:

1 Q Miss Gore, you said this meeting was on
2 March 14th?
3 A Yes, ma'am.
4 Q Did your brother go to jail that day?
5 A No, he didn't.
6 MS. JANOWSKI: I have no further
7 questions.
8 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.
9 Anything else, Mr. Plexico?
10 MR. PLEXICO: No, Your Honor. We would
11 just call the last witness.
12 THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am. You can be
13 excused.
14 MR. PLEXICO: We would call Joanne Lyons
15 next. She is right outside.
16 THE COURT: And, ma'am, if you want to,
17 you can stay in the courtroom now. You don't have
18 to leave the courtroom now that you've testified.
19 Okay.
20 MR. PLEXICO: Just go and have a seat and
21 take the oath.
22 THE CLERK: Place your left on the Bible
23 and raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell
24 the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
25 truth so help you God?

1 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.

2 THE CLERK: Have a seat.

3 THE COURT: Hi.

4 THE WITNESS: Hi.

5 THE COURT: You can pull your mask down

6 for purposes of your testimony. Okay?

7 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

8 WHEREUPON:

9 JOANNE LYONS,

10 after having been sworn, testified as follows:

11 DIRECT EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. PLEXICO:

13 Q What is your name, ma'am?

14 A Barbara Joanne Bell Lyons.

15 Q Do you know the young man sitting here?

16 A Yes, sir, I do. That's my son.

17 Q That's --

18 A Ronald B. Lyons, Jr. We call him Ronnie.

19 Q Okay. And the young lady sitting back here is

20 Samantha Gore, and who is that?

21 A That's my daughter.

22 Q Okay. And where were you on March 14, 2019?

23 A Hmmm...

24 Q Let me put it this way. I'll withdraw that. Did

25 you get a phone call from Samantha Gore, your

1 daughter, that day?
2 A Yes, I did.
3 Q And what did that phone call lead you to do?
4 A I was at work, and she called me and let me
5 know that SLED was at my house. So I left work
6 and I come home. I work right at Lowcountry
7 Seafood, which is just a couple of blocks where I
8 lived.
9 Q And who was at the house when you got there?
10 A My son, my daughter, their father. There was
11 the one SLED agent that I spoke with and --
12 Q Is that Mr. Maffett? Mr. Maffett?
13 A Yes, sir.
14 Q All right.
15 MR. PLEXICO: Court's indulgence.
16 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
17 BY MR. PLEXICO:
18 Q Did he give you a card?
19 A Yes, sir.
20 Q All right. And is this a copy of the card that he
21 gave you, or a copy of the front of the card?
22 A Yes, sir, it is.
23 Q All right. What's the name on the card?
24 A Jarrett Maffett. I'm not sure how you
25 pronounce it.

1 Q He's with what department?
2 A SLED.
3 Q Okay. All right.
4 A I have that card, if you need it.
5 MR. PLEXICO: I'm going to make this a
6 Court's exhibit, Judge. I believe this would be 8
7 (sic).
8 (COURT'S EXH. 9, Maffett business card, was
9 marked for identification.)
10 BY MR. PLEXICO:
11 Q Did you have a discussion with Mr. SLED Agent
12 Maffett?
13 A Yes, sir, I did.
14 Q And what did you ask for Maffett?
15 A The first thing I said to him was I was glad
16 that he showed up. I thought that he was there to
17 help my son because, the day before, I was at the
18 hospital. Didn't know it was the police I was
19 talking to. And my son had OD'd the night before
20 in my house and I was crying to him, begging for
21 help to get my son the help that he needed and he
22 said, you -- well, he stopped me. He said, you
23 can stop that now. He said, calm down. We're not
24 here about that. He said, I don't know where your
25 son is keeping his drugs. They're not in your

1 house. We already searched.
2 Q Is that what he said on March 14th?
3 A Yes, he told me that. And I asked if they
4 were going to jail, him and Courtney. And he
5 said, as long as they work with us and do what we
6 needed him to do nothing has been put on paper.
7 They're not going to jail. As long as they
8 cooperated with what we needed them to do.
9 Q As far as you know, did Ronnie and Courtney
10 cooperate?
11 A I know he made buys. I know that for a fact
12 because April 29th he came home crying and he told
13 me, he said, Mom, I hate to tell you this but
14 you're going to need to pack your stuff and get
15 out of town. I did what SLED wanted me to do and
16 he worked with the girl.
17 Q Who was the girl?
18 A Terri Lynn. Her name at that time was
19 Deloach.
20 Q Okay. Well -- and how did that make you feel?
21 How did you feel for your security?
22 A I didn't feel safe to stay in Hampton by no
23 means.
24 Q Where did you-all move to?
25 A I moved in with my ex-husband, their father,

1 in Lake City, South Carolina.
2 Q Okay. Is that where you are to this day?
3 A Yes, sir.
4 Q And was that for your safety?
5 A Yes, sir. I mean, that's how I felt. I
6 don't play in the dope game. I watch TV. I'm
7 sorry, but I was scared. I went out of town.
8 Q In sum, Mr. Maffett said in your experience there
9 weren't any warrants and they weren't going to jail --
10 A No, as long --
11 Q -- as long as they cooperated.
12 A They were not going to jail as long as they
13 cooperated.
14 Q I don't have anything further. Answer any
15 questions the State may have for you?
16 THE COURT: Solicitor.
17 MS. JANOWSKI: No questions.
18 THE COURT: All right. Ma'am, you can
19 step down. Thank you.
20 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir.
21 MR. PLEXICO: I'm resting for the
22 purposes of this motion, Judge.
23 THE COURT: Do you have any witnesses,
24 Solicitor?
25 MR. PLEXICO: Well, Your Honor, I do have

one other thing. I have the drugs results from Melton and Beach buys, and I will ask to introduce the SLED agent -- the SLED drug results, Judge, and I believe that the lady is -- I'm looking for Maribeth McCormack is coming later today.

THE COURT: Any objection?

MS. JANOWSKI: Your Honor, I'm not going to object to that. I'm going to be calling the officer, the agent, so he can feel free to get them in through the agent.

THE COURT: All right. Well, if he wants to enter it as a Court's exhibit, that's fine. And if somebody wants to ask the agent about it, that's fine too. Okay?

MR. PLEXICO: I don't think there's -- this is just what I got from the solicitor, what they say the results of these drugs are.

THE COURT: All right.

MR. PLEXICO: I'm going to make this a Court's exhibit.

THE COURT: Subject to the solicitor's objection, I'm going to admit that.

(COURT'S EXH. 10, Drug results from SLED, was entered into evidence.)

MS. JANOWSKI: The State is going to

1 call.
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1 Lieutenant Randal Risher

2 THE COURT: All right. Come around, sir.

3 THE CLERK: Raise your right hand. Do you

4 swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing

5 but the truth so help you God?

6 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.

7 THE CLERK: Have a seat.

8 WHEREUPON:

9 RANDAL RISHER,

10 after having been sworn, testified as follows:

11 DIRECT EXAMINATION

12 BY MS. JANOWSKI:

13 Q Can you state your name for the record?

14 A Randal Risher. Lieutenant Randal Risher.

15 Q How long have you been in law enforcement?

16 A Twelve years.

17 Q Where do you work now?

18 A Hampton Police Department.

19 Q Where did you work in February of 2019?

20 A SLED.

21 Q How were you involved in the case against the

22 defendant?

23 A I am the case agent.

24 Q To the best of your knowledge, was the defendant

25 using illegal drugs during the time period that SLED

1 was working with him?
2 A Yes, ma'am.
3 Q After the controlled buys, did you ever meet with
4 the defendant?
5 A No, ma'am.
6 Q To your knowledge -- so, to your knowledge, there
7 was never an agreement --
8 MR. PLEXICO: That's leading,
9 Your Honor.
10 THE COURT: Overruled.
11 MS. JANOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
12 BY MS. JANOWSKI:
13 Q Were you ever present with him after -- during any
14 conversations after he became a confidential
15 informant?
16 A Yes.
17 Q Did anyone -- did you ever make any promises in
18 exchange for his work as a confidential informant?
19 A No, ma'am.
20 Q Was he a reliable confidential informant, a CI?
21 A No, ma'am. He was unreliable.
22 Q Did he ever provide you information that was
23 useful to your investigation?
24 A No, ma'am.
25 Q Did you ever promise him that he wouldn't go to

1 jail or that warrants wouldn't be put out if he was a
2 CI?
3 A No, ma'am.
4 Q So did you ever make any type of plea agreement
5 with the defendant?
6 A No, ma'am.
7 Q Do you have the authority to make a plea agreement
8 on behalf of the solicitor's office?
9 A No, ma'am.
10 MS. JANOWSKI: I have no further
11 questions.
12 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Plexico.
13 MR. PLEXICO: Thank you.
14 CROSS-EXAMINATION
15 BY MR. PLEXICO:
16 Q Were you at a preliminary hearing in reference to
17 Ronald Lyons's case?
18 A Yes.
19 Q Did you testify that he provided valuable
20 intelligence to you at the preliminary hearing?
21 A I don't recall.
22 Q Okay. Could you have made that statement?
23 A I don't recall.
24 Q Okay. Do you want to hear the -- you want to --
25 did other agents say he provided valuable

1 information?
2 A I don't recall.
3 Q Okay. Do you want to hear the tape?
4 A (No response.)
5 Q I'm asking to refresh your memory?
6 A It don't matter. I don't know.
7 Q All right. Now, you have search warrants -- you
8 have arrest warrants. And, arrest warrants, you-all
9 serve them after you get them, correct?
10 A Yes.
11 Q So, my client -- you-all came to my client's house
12 March 14th?
13 A I don't recall the date.
14 Q Okay. Was it on or about March 14th?
15 A Yes.
16 Q Okay. And did you-all talk to anybody at the
17 house?
18 A I never talked to nobody.
19 Q Was anybody at the house?
20 A Yes.
21 Q So, you didn't -- okay.
22 A I didn't talk to him. I was outside.
23 Q You were outside.
24 A Yes, sir.
25 Q Was it Agent Maffett inside?

1 A Yes.
2 Q And did you take my client out to the woods and
3 talk to my client?
4 A Yes, we did.
5 Q Did you talk to Courtney Lane?
6 A Yes, we did.
7 Q As a result of those talks, did my client start
8 making buys for you-all?
9 A He never made a buy for me, personally.
10 Q Were you present when he made the buys in
11 Florence?
12 A I was present at one buy.
13 Q All right. And he bought you a large quantity of
14 drugs?
15 A No, ma'am -- no, sir.
16 Q In Florence?
17 A I never went to Florence.
18 Q You never went. Did you go with the Terri Lynn
19 buy?
20 A Yes, I was on the Terri Lynn buy.
21 Q And that was for the crystal meth?
22 A I don't recall what it was.
23 Q But he bought a lot of drugs. He was working --
24 A He was buying drugs.
25 Q He was working buying drugs in Florence and

1 Hampton for SLED; is that correct?
2 A Yes.
3 Q And why do people go out and buy drugs for
4 you-all?
5 A We do that to eliminate the drugs in the
6 area.
7 Q Okay. And they do that to get help on their
8 cases?
9 A We ask the solicitor's office for help, but
10 we can't guarantee nobody that they won't go to
11 jail.
12 Q Okay. Do you-all have to serve warrants? Can
13 you-all just hold the warrants back and withdraw?
14 A No, we don't.
15 Q You can withdraw warrants. It's possible,
16 right?
17 A It's possible, but it's not a good practice.
18 Q All right. So, as a law enforcement officer,
19 you're sworn to obey the law?
20 A Yes, sir.
21 Q And you are sworn to obey orders of the court; is
22 that correct?
23 A Yes, sir.
24 Q All right. Did you go there intending to get them
25 to make buys for you-all?

1 A Who?
2 Q Mr. Lyons and Miss Courtney Lane?
3 A We all -- the people that they get, we go to
4 them. And we're trying to work -- if they were
5 offered to work, if they can bring some buys to
6 the table -- if they're reliable, we'll work
7 them.
8 Q What does "work with them" mean? Give them help
9 on their case, like, they go to prison? Cut a deal
10 with them?
11 A No, sir. Like I said --
12 Q Well, why would they do it if --
13 THE COURT: Hold on. Allow him to
14 answer.
15 THE WITNESS: Like I said earlier, we
16 can't guarantee nobody would go to jail. We work
17 with them and we can -- at the end of our
18 investigation we can come to the solicitor's
19 office and speak on their behalf.
20 BY MR. PLEXICO:
21 Q Did you do that in this case?
22 A No, sir.
23 Q Did you do it in Courtney Lane's case?
24 A No, sir.
25 Q All right. Did Courtney Lane with --

1 John Anderson has gotten off several murder wraps,
2 correct?
3 A I don't know.
4 Q You don't know about that? You're from Hampton,
5 aren't you?
6 A Yes, sir, I am.
7 Q Do you know John Anderson?
8 A Yes, I know him.
9 Q He's a well-known drug dealer, isn't he?
10 A I don't know him personally but I heard of
11 him.
12 Q His reputation in the legal community is that
13 you-all believe he's a murderer and a well-known drug
14 dealer; isn't that correct?
15 A I can't say I believe that.
16 Q Is that his reputation in the legal community?
17 A Some might say, some might not.
18 Q Okay. All right.
19 MR. PLEXICO: May I approach the witness?
20 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
21 BY MR. PLEXICO:
22 Q Does this say in here that you're directed to
23 arrest the defendant and bring him forthwith to the
24 court, the part I pointed out to you?
25 A Would you point it out?

1 MR. PLEXICO: May I approach again?

2 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

3 BY MR. PLEXICO:

4 Q Right here (indicating).

5 A Okay.

6 Q What are your directions by the court after they

7 signed that warrant? Read it out loud.

8 A "Having found probable cause and the above

9 affidavit having sworn before me, you are

10 empowered and directed to arrest the said

11 defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith

12 to be dealt with according to the law."

13 Q Forthwith is a now, correct? Forthwith is now.

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q When was that warrant signed by the judge?

16 A That's May --

17 Q Not when it was served. When it was signed. Over

18 here.

19 A February --

20 Q March 14th?

21 A March 14th, yeah.

22 Q It was served on May 1st?

23 A Yes.

24 Q So you-all were hanging out with Ronnie between

25 March 14th and May 1st?

1 A Yes.
2 Q So you chose to ignore the order of the court in
3 serving this warrant, correct?
4 A I didn't ignore it.
5 Q Well, you didn't serve it, did you?
6 A No. Not at that time, no.
7 Q So you didn't serve it forthwith, correct?
8 A No, sir.
9 Q Right?
10 A No, sir, we didn't.
11 Q So you disobeyed this order in the arrest
12 warrant?
13 A I didn't disobey.
14 Q Well, did you serve it forthwith?
15 A No, I didn't.
16 Q Does this order direct you to serve it
17 forthwith?
18 A That's what it says, yes, sir.
19 Q Did you do that?
20 A No, sir.
21 Q Okay. It took you six weeks. You held the
22 warrant, correct?
23 A Yes, sir.
24 Q And during the time you held the warrant, you had
25 Courtney Lane and my client out making multiple drug

1 buys, this dope on the table here?
2 A He didn't make any buys for me.
3 Q For your department.
4 A For our department, yes.
5 Q No question about that, right?
6 A Yes, sir. No questions about that.
7 MR. PLEXICO: All right.
8 THE COURT: Any redirect?
9 MR. PLEXICO: Your Honor, I might have a
10 few, please.
11 THE COURT: I'm sorry. You got a few?
12 Go ahead.
13 MR. PLEXICO: Yes.
14 BY MR. PLEXICO:
15 Q All right. Do you have a CI file on him?
16 A SLED do.
17 Q Okay. Did you-all produce that?
18 A Produce? What do you mean?
19 Q The CI file with him, did you-all produce that?
20 A Produce it to who?
21 Q To the defense.
22 A No.
23 Q Or "him" being Ronnie Lyons?
24 A No, sir.
25 Q Okay. All right. Do you have any case reports on

1 the buys that you-all made -- my client made for
2 you-all?
3 A He never did a buy for me.
4 Q Okay. All right. Are you aware of any that were
5 turned over to the defense?
6 A Not to my knowledge.
7 Q All right. Is it common practice for you-all to
8 make videos and audios of your drug buys?
9 A Yes, sir.
10 Q So you-all have the equipment available to make
11 audios and videos of your drug buys?
12 A Yes.
13 Q When you arrest a client and you want to see if
14 they'll work for you, that's commonly called
15 debriefing, correct?
16 A Yes, sir.
17 Q So you had the ability to video and audio tape the
18 debriefing, correct?
19 A Yes.
20 Q And when you went to the search warrant, did
21 you-all have on body cameras or anything like that
22 when you went to search the house?
23 A I never searched the house.
24 Q All right. Did anybody there -- did you observe
25 any officer there wearing body cameras, audio

1 recording devices while at the house?
2 A No, sir.
3 Q No, sir is the answer?
4 A Yeah.
5 Q Okay. All right. So, you're not aware of any
6 reports to document these drugs, correct?
7 A Like I said, he didn't buy for me.
8 Q But the average officer wears bodily cameras.
9 That's the way it is these days.
10 A Yeah, the average road officer do. But we
11 don't wear body cams.
12 Q But you record your buys?
13 A Yes, we do.
14 Q But you don't record your debriefings?
15 A No, sir.
16 Q You don't record your conversations about getting
17 them to go buy for you?
18 A No, sir.
19 Q So there's no way for a defendant to say that he
20 would have audio or video proof ever of an allegation
21 that he was given a deal because you-all don't record
22 those?
23 A No, we don't record them.
24 Q So there's no way for him to prove it through
25 audio or video?

1 A No, sir.
2 Q And you-all allow people to audio or video you-all
3 while you're talking to them?
4 A No, sir.
5 Q You have a smartphone?
6 A Say again.
7 Q You have a smartphone?
8 A Personally?
9 Q Did you have a department-issued smartphone at the
10 time?
11 A Me personally?
12 Q Did SLED give you a smartphone?
13 A Yes.
14 Q Okay. All right. So you have a recording
15 capability on that smartphone?
16 A Yes, I do.
17 Q Did you use it that day?
18 A No, sir.
19 Q All right. Do you believe you had decision or not
20 to serve that warrant?
21 A Did I have discretion?
22 Q Discretion. It was up to you?
23 A Yes.
24 Q Okay.
25 MR. PLEXICO: Court's indulgence, just

please. I don't have anything further.

THE COURT: Solicitor.

MS. JANOWSKI: Just very briefly, Your Honor.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MS. JANOWSKI:

Q Lieutenant Risher, just to make it clear, you use your discretion, that's the practice when dealing with CI's and warrants, correct?

A Yes, ma'am.

Q Okay. And you said that you did not go to speak on behalf of the defendant to this solicitor's office?

A No, I didn't.

Q Why didn't you?

A He was unreliable.

Q How was he unreliable?

A He was high most of the time. I never really had too much conversation with him. It was Special Agent Maffett that really talked to him the most. But he was unreliable.

MS. JANOWSKI: Thank you. I have no further questions.

THE COURT: Hold on. I want to ask a question.

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

1 THE COURT: Who's the case leader on this
2 matter?
3 THE WITNESS: Me.
4 THE COURT: So, as the case leader,
5 you're supposed to know the most. I mean, you're
6 in charge. You're the boss.
7 THE WITNESS: Yes.
8 THE COURT: So when you said he didn't
9 make any buys for you, or only made one buy for
10 you, what I want to know is: Who he is making the
11 other buys for? Well, first of all, did he make
12 other buys for other SLED agents?
13 THE WITNESS: Yes, he did.
14 THE COURT: And those SLED agents
15 reported to you on this matter.
16 THE WITNESS: Yes.
17 THE COURT: So when we say, "he didn't
18 make any buys for me," what you really mean is
19 he's not making any buys for me personally. He's
20 making buys for the agents that report to me in
21 this matter.
22 THE WITNESS: Yes.
23 THE COURT: And you were at the
24 preliminary hearing.
25 THE WITNESS: Yes, I was.

THE COURT: Did you testify at the preliminary hearing?

THE WITNESS: No, sir.

THE COURT: But somebody else who works for you testified at the preliminary hearing.

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: All right. I want to hear the preliminary tape because you were there.

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: I want to hear the person if he said that he provided valuable information, okay? Because it's amazing to me that you don't remember that, sir. I want to hear it. All right?

MR. PLEXICO: It's coming up, Judge.

(Recording played.)

MR. PLEXICO: I'm trying to bring the volume down some, Judge, so it doesn't echo so much.

(Off the record.)

MR. PLEXICO: This is Courtney Lane and then this is when they were together. We get them back to back.

I'm starting at 57:33.

(Recording played.)

1 THE COURT: I just can't hardly hear
2 it.
3 MR. PLEXICO: Do you want me to just
4 bring it up? Can I just play it at your desk?
5 THE COURT: I mean, that's fine. We can
6 play it right here. I heard one portion of
7 "valuable," but then it kind of went on. I don't
8 want to take anything out of context, so I want to
9 hear it.
10 MR. PLEXICO: All right. I'm going to
11 play this and bring it up to the bench.
12 THE COURT: Solicitor, can you hear it?
13 MS. JANOWSKI: Not --
14 THE COURT: Do you need to come up?
15 MS. JANOWSKI: Yes, sir.
16 THE COURT: Come on up. You don't mind
17 being so close to me.
18 MR. PLEXICO: This is going to start at
19 count -- the count is going to be 56:59 when I
20 punch the button. I think it comes out right
21 there.
22 THE COURT: All right.
23 MR. PLEXICO: Just do the mouse.
24 (Recording played at bench.)
25 THE COURT: All right. Thank you,

1 Mr. Plexico. Thank you for playing that for me.
2 I think that answers some questions for the
3 court.
4 MR. PLEXICO: And I have a quick two
5 questions.
6 THE COURT: I think she was getting ready
7 to ask some questions. Did you have some
8 questions that you wanted to ask, Solicitor,
9 because, basically, the court, sort of -- you were
10 about to ask a question about the same time I
11 started asking questions, so I don't want to cut
12 you off.
13 MS. JANOWSKI: I had already gotten the
14 questions I needed out. If you could just give me
15 one second of the Court's indulgence and I'll take
16 a look at some of the prelim audio that I have.
17 THE COURT: You can. Can Mr. Plexico go
18 ahead and ask whatever questions he wants?
19 MS. JANOWSKI: Absolutely.
20 THE COURT: Go ahead, Mr. Plexico.
21 RECROSS-EXAMINATION
22 BY MR. PLEXICO:
23 Q So why did you-all approach him as quietly as
24 possible?
25 A We do every defendant like that.

1 Q Okay. All right. And you take every defendant
2 out in the woods?
3 A Undisclosed location so no one can see the
4 defendant.
5 Q Okay. And what are you-all trying to do, turn him
6 into a CI for you-all?
7 A Yes, sir.
8 Q Okay.
9 MR. PLEXICO: So, I'm going to move this
10 into evidence as a court's exhibit, Judge -- I
11 mean as a exhibit for the defense. If I've been
12 saying court's exhibit, I'm meaning --
13 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
14 MR. PLEXICO: For the defense.
15 THE COURT: Any objection, Solicitor, to
16 the tape recording?
17 MS. JANOWSKI: No objection. For what it
18 is, no objection, Your Honor.
19 BY MR. PLEXICO:
20 Q All right. So he did provide valuable evidence
21 and there's SLED testimony about that, correct? You
22 just heard it.
23 A Yes, I heard it. Can I explain it?
24 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
25 THE WITNESS: What I mean is, the

1 evidence -- the information he provided didn't
2 lead to any arrest.
3 BY MR. PLEXICO:
4 Q All right.
5 A That's what I mean when I say that.
6 Q You catch me with this, do I get arrested?
7 A Yes, you will.
8 Q Okay. You catch me with this, do I get
9 arrested?
10 A Yes, sir.
11 Q You catch me with this meth, do I get arrested?
12 A Yes, sir. Yes, sir.
13 Q And whether or not you go out and make a case is
14 up to you-all?
15 A Well, no, sir. If the CI don't produce a
16 good video and audio, we can't make an arrest.
17 Q Okay. All right. So what happened to the audio
18 and video I asked for? You're the case officer.
19 A Yes, I'm the case officer.
20 Q What happened to it? Did you-all destroyed it?
21 A Not to my knowledge.
22 Q Where is it at?
23 A Special Agent Maffett can answer that.
24 Q As the case officer, was it ever turned over to
25 the defense?

1 A No, sir.
2 Q Was it ever turned over to the solicitor's
3 office?
4 A No, sir.
5 Q So it was withheld?
6 A It wasn't turned over, so, yes.
7 MR. PLEXICO: Okay.
8 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
9 BY MS. JANOWSKI:
10 Q Just briefly, can you explain how it works when
11 you have a confidential informant with what your
12 practices with -- you know, you have a goal in mind
13 for the defendant here. What was the goal of having
14 him assist you? Was it these buys? Is this what you
15 were going for?
16 A No, ma'am. The goal was to lead to a pill
17 press. The guy that had a pill press.
18 Q A pill press.
19 A Yes, ma'am.
20 Q And that was communicated. Everybody knew that
21 that was involved.
22 A Yes.
23 Q The defendant said he could get you this pill
24 press?
25 A Yes.

1 Q Did he ever produce the pill press?
2 MR. PLEXICO: That's leading, Your
3 Honor.
4 THE COURT: Overruled.
5 THE WITNESS: No, ma'am. He never
6 produced the pill press.
7 BY MS. JANOWSKI:
8 Q And when you say -- when the defense says you're
9 withholding recordings, is it common -- explain to the
10 Court your common practice on how you work with CIs.
11 Do you always take them out to an undisclosed
12 location? It's not like you're hiding somebody in the
13 woods. You know, you're taking them somewhere where
14 you can be discreet. Can you explain that?
15 A Yes. We're dealing with CIs. We won't want
16 nobody to know they're a CI, so we take them to a
17 placee where there is no public -- no one can see
18 them. So that's the purpose of an undisclosed
19 location.
20 MS. JANOWSKI: I have no further
21 questions.
22 THE COURT: All right. Anything further
23 Mr. Plexico?
24 MR. PLEXICO: I don't have anything
25 further, Judge.

1 THE COURT: All right. Any other
2 witnesses?
3 MS. JANOWSKI: The State is going to call
4 Jarrett Maffett.
5 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, sir.
6 THE CLERK: Place your left hand on the
7 Bible and raise your right hand. Do you swear or
8 affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth, and
9 nothing but the truth so help you God?
10 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.
11 MS. JANOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
12 WHEREUPON:
13 JARRETT MAFFETT,
14 after having been sworn, testified as follows:
15 DIRECT EXAMINATION
16 BY MS. JANOWSKI:
17 Q Agent Maffett, how long have you been in law
18 enforcement?
19 A Almost nine years.
20 Q Who do you work it currently?
21 A SLED.
22 Q And were you working at SLED in 2019?
23 A Yes, ma'am.
24 Q Were you involved with the case -- in the case
25 with Ronald Lyons?

1 A Yes, ma'am.
2 Q And what capacity?
3 A I was the undercover officer.
4 Q Okay. To the best your knowledge, was the
5 defendant using illegal at the time you were dealing
6 with him?
7 A Yes, ma'am.
8 Q How did the defendant learn that you were
9 undercover?
10 A We approached him. And once we approached
11 him, I showed him my credentials and basically
12 told him I was a special agent with SLED.
13 Q How did he react?
14 A He was angry with me, mostly cordial with the
15 other officers.
16 Q Did you -- I guess it's called an interview or
17 debrief him after?
18 A Yes, ma'am.
19 Q At that time, do you think that he was under the
20 influence?
21 A Yes, ma'am.
22 Q What made you think that?
23 A He had overdosed just a few days before
24 then.
25 Q Now, did you ask him to be a confidential

1 informant?
2 A Yes, ma'am, I did.
3 Q Who else was present when that conversation took
4 place?
5 A Special Agent Risher and Special Agent
6 Bennett.
7 Q Had he stopped using drugs when he decided he
8 would be a CI with you-all?
9 A Not to my knowledge.
10 Q And did you make any promises to him in exchange
11 for his work?
12 A No, ma'am.
13 Q What did you tell him that you would do if he
14 provided this pill press for you-all?
15 A We told him that we would talk to the
16 prosecutor, the prosecutor would talk to the
17 judge, and, basically, they would decide about any
18 consideration that would happen.
19 Q Okay. And we have drugs here that he was able to
20 get when he was a CI for you-all. Did he ever provide
21 you-all with that pill presser?
22 A No, ma'am.
23 Q Overall, was he reliable? Was he a reliable CI?
24 A No, ma'am.
25 Q What does that mean? How was he unreliable?

1 A Well, every time he showed up, he looked like
2 he was under the influence. He was very difficult
3 to deal with in all aspects. He did not want to
4 do -- every time he made complaints about one
5 thing, about another. He did not get good video
6 on any of the buys. And he actually lied to us
7 about the first two buys and then admitted that
8 was not where the pill press was. And that's when
9 the third buy happened. No, he was not
10 reliable.
11 Q So at first he said that he -- at the first buys
12 he did, that was the person that was going to be --
13 get you that pill press, which is -- the goal was to
14 get the pill press. And then he told you that he was
15 lying to you, that that wasn't the case, and you went
16 and did another buy and you still didn't get a pill
17 press.
18 A Yes, ma'am.
19 Q Did you ever promise that he wouldn't go to jail
20 if he worked with you-all?
21 A No, ma'am.
22 Q Did you ever promise him that no warrants would be
23 taken out on him or served on him if he worked with
24 you-all?
25 A No, ma'am.

1 Q Did you make any plea agreement with the
2 defendant?
3 A No, ma'am.
4 Q Are you authorized to make a plea agreement on
5 behalf of us, the solicitor's office?
6 A No, ma'am.
7 Q How did you meet him? How did you meet the
8 defendant?
9 A We had an informant that was able to set me
10 up with him. And from then, I was able to get his
11 phone number.
12 Q And you-all started communicating that way?
13 A Yes, ma'am.
14 Q Can you explain to the court what exactly a pill
15 press is?
16 A It's a device. Some of them are bigger than
17 others. Some of them are more industrial than
18 others. But it basically is self-explanatory.
19 It's a device used to press pills. And it's what
20 any pill that is not in a capsule is made out of.
21 Q So, you know, you wanted to see this pill press
22 because you're talking about it could be different
23 kinds. It could be simple, basic, or something
24 industrial that could be pumping out more.
25 A Yes.

1 Q Why was it so important for you-all to try and
2 find that pill press?
3 A Well, there's -- at the time, and still,
4 there's a big push on the opioid epidemic.
5 Q And so you-all wanted it to work out so you could
6 get that pill press with the defendant.
7 A Yes.
8 Q But it couldn't because he just was not
9 reliable?
10 A Yes, ma'am.
11 Q Did you ever come and talk to anyone in the
12 solicitor's office about the work that the defendant
13 did?
14 A No, ma'am.
15 MS. JANOWSKI: I have no further
16 questions.
17 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Plexico, do
18 you have any questions of this witness, sir?
19 CROSS-EXAMINATION
20 BY MR. PLEXICO:
21 Q You know Reed Evans? Do you know Reed Evans? Do
22 you know Reed Evans?
23 A Reed Evans.
24 Q Yes. Solicitor Reed Evans?
25 A No, sir, not that I know of.

1 Q Okay. All right. Do you remember the solicitor
2 at your preliminary hearing?
3 A Yes, sir. Yes, sir.
4 Q Okay. All right. Now, so you'll have warrants
5 you got on 3/14 before you went over to Mr. Lyons's
6 house and went out and searched his house and his car
7 and took him out in the woods for debriefing. You-all
8 already had warrants, correct?
9 A Yes, sir.
10 Q All right. And, as an agent, do you know what a
11 warrant looks like?
12 A Yes, sir.
13 Q All right. And, as an agent, are you sworn to
14 uphold the laws, a SLED agent?
15 A Yes, sir.
16 Q And do you carry court orders faithfully and as to
17 their direction on what to do?
18 A Yes, sir.
19 MR. PLEXICO: May I approach the witness?
20 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
21 BY MR. PLEXICO:
22 Q What are the court's instructions on this warrant?
23 Could you read that out loud there?
24 A "Having found," that part, "Having found
25 probable cause"?

1 Q Yes, sir.
2 A "The above affidavit having sworn before me
3 you are empowered and directed to arrest said
4 defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith
5 to be dealt with according to the law. A copy of
6 this arrest warrant shall be delivered to the
7 defendant at the time of execution," and it's
8 sworn to and ascribed before me."
9 Q What's the date the warrant was served? Is that
10 May 1st? On the bottom right.
11 A May 7th.
12 Q Okay. So, let's see.
13 A You're talking about right there.
14 Q All right. Okay. So that's half of March -- over
15 half of March, from the 14th to the 31st, correct?
16 That is all of April. And that's through March 7th,
17 according to you.
18 All right. So, you-all didn't serve that
19 forthwith, correct?
20 A No, sir.
21 Q So you have discretion over wether or not to serve
22 warrants?
23 A Yes, sir.
24 Q You have discretion on whether or not to obey
25 court orders; is that correct?

1 A That's twisting the words.
2 Q Excuse me?
3 A I said it's twisting the words.
4 Q Did you obey the court order to serve it
5 forthwith, sir?
6 A We did not serve that warrant.
7 Q Okay. So you didn't serve it forthwith,
8 correct?
9 A We did not serve the warrant.
10 Q Okay. Well, do you have any idea, if it never got
11 served, a return was signed on it, why it says it got
12 served and why you just testified that it got served
13 on May 7th? So you-all had the warrant served?
14 A Served to him or served to the court?
15 Q Were you arresting the court? Is this an arrest
16 warrant, an order --
17 A Yes.
18 Q For an arrest?
19 A Yes, it is.
20 Q Issued by the court.
21 A Yes, sir.
22 Q Okay. So, he got arrested per this court order,
23 commonly called an arrest warrant?
24 A Yes, sir.
25 Q Okay. All right. So, you have discretion in

1 whether or not to obey a court order as a SLED agent;
2 is that correct?
3 A We have discretion on whether to serve a
4 warrant or not.
5 Q In spite of the order of the court?
6 A I guess so.
7 Q And is this what SLED trains you to do?
8 A Yes, sir. That's how I've been trained.
9 Q All right. So why would you-all withhold
10 warrants? Was that to get people to cooperate with
11 you?
12 A We took the warrant out, that way, if he did
13 not cooperate, we serve that warrant.
14 Q All right. So it's a threat?
15 A No, it's not. He did not know the warrant
16 existed. He did not know that there was a
17 warrant.
18 Q Did you lie to him -- well, when you went to his
19 house, did you have a warrant?
20 A No, sir.
21 Q Okay.
22 A Well, we did have a warrant, but he did not
23 know we had a warrant.
24 Q So you-all tricked him?
25 A We didn't threaten him. We did not trick

him.

Q If you didn't have a way to arrest him, all right, why would he work with you?

A Because he knew that we could arrest him.

Q All right. So, did you go there intending to get him to make drug buys for you, drug buys?

A Yes, sir.

Q Okay. All right. Now, and he made -- bought plenty of drugs, correct?

A Yes, sir.

Q Now, where did this pill press thing come from? You-all -- SLED's not interested in drugs. They're interested in some kind of pill press?

A Yes, sir.

Q All right. Can't you go to Auto Zone? If you want to make a pill, you just drive a substance through anything with a round hole and chop it off and that's your little pills.

A Yes, sir, I'm sure you could.

Q Okay. So, what's the heck of a deal about a pill press when anybody who wants to make a pill can go to Auto Zone and buy a couple of mechanic's pieces and make them any day? Isn't that a ruse to the court? You wanted the drugs, not the pills, is that -- you wanted, not the pill press, you wanted the drugs,

1 right?
2 A No, sir. We're after a pill press. But in
3 order to get the pill press, we needed to buy
4 drugs.
5 Q Okay. What would make anybody know somebody had a
6 pill press and they just weren't buying them from
7 somebody else? How would you know that? How would
8 Joe -- dope head Joe buying drugs from his supplier
9 know whether the supplier had a pill press or he was
10 just buying it off somebody else? There would be no
11 way to know that, right?
12 A I'm sorry, which question do you want me to
13 answer.
14 Q All of them.
15 A All of them. Could you repeat them?
16 Q Sure. How would dope head Joe know his supplier
17 has a pill press or not?
18 A Well, he's buying the pills from him.
19 Q That doesn't mean the supplier has his own pill
20 press, correct?
21 A Not necessarily.
22 Q How would you know? How would you know? How many
23 pill presses have you-all collected lately, in the
24 last six months?
25 A Well, we got a Fentanyl lab last week that

1 had three pill presses in it.
2 Q Okay. So you got -- broke in a lab. How many
3 drug dealers did you arrest with the pill press?
4 A That was one.
5 Q One.
6 A Yes, sir.
7 Q That was one.
8 A Yes, sir.
9 Q Okay. So it's not common for people to have pill
10 presses?
11 A No, sir.
12 Q That's wrong?
13 A No, sir, it is not common --
14 Q All right.
15 A -- for ordinary people to have a pill
16 press.
17 Q But you could just go to Auto Zone or Discount
18 Auto Parts and buy the tools to make your own for a
19 small sum, correct?
20 A If you say so.
21 Q Okay. Well, that's how you make a pill, isn't it?
22 You're in the dope business on the law enforcement
23 side. That's what your training tells you, right?
24 A I don't know. Our training doesn't tell us
25 that.

1 Q Okay. So you don't really know what a pill press
2 is, right?
3 A I know we've seen several last week.
4 Q All right. So you-all don't wear body cams,
5 correct?
6 A We did not back then. We do now.
7 Q Did you-all record debriefings now?
8 A No, sir.
9 Q Okay. And there's no way for a defendant to say
10 what the deal was or why they're buying or what you
11 made promises for because you-all don't have audio and
12 video equipment?
13 A We never made promises.
14 Q Okay. But you don't have audio and video
15 equipment?
16 A We do not record anything.
17 Q Do you-allow the defendant to record you?
18 A No, sir.
19 Q Okay. All right. So you-all weren't interested
20 in drugs, is that what you testified to, that he
21 bought?
22 A The drugs are a means to an end.
23 Q All right.
24 MR. PLEXICO: Court's indulgence.
25 BY MR. PLEXICO:

1 Q Anthony Melton in jail now?
2 A Yes, sir.
3 Q Or what's his name, Amp?
4 A Anthony Melton, a/k/a Amp.
5 Q Amp's in prison?
6 A Yes, sir.
7 Q All right. So where is your -- I asked you
8 earlier for a report. Do you have any reports -- you
9 went to help -- you went to oversee him buy these in
10 Florence, correct?
11 A Yes, sir.
12 Q And where is your written report in regards to
13 each one of these buys?
14 A If the buy is not prosecutable, we do not
15 write reports on it.
16 Q All right. Who makes that decision?
17 A The SLED agent.
18 Q Where's video from those buys? Was he suited up
19 with video and audio?
20 A Yes, sir, he was.
21 Q Okay. All right. Did the audio machine break?
22 A I'm sorry. I couldn't hear you.
23 Q Did the audio machine break?
24 A No, sir, it did not.
25 Q Okay. So you can hear everything being said?

1 A Yes, sir.
2 Q So where is the video and audio from that?
3 A Everything has been disposed of. Those drugs
4 have actually already been put in for destruction,
5 but, luckily enough, they haven't been destroyed
6 yet.
7 Q So you don't have the audio and video anymore; is
8 that correct?
9 A No, sir.
10 Q You-all destroy?
11 A Yes, sir.
12 Q When did you-all destroy it, last month?
13 A No. No.
14 Q It's not funny. It's a real question?
15 A I do not know when it was destroyed.
16 Q It was --
17 A When it was deemed non-prosecutable by myself
18 and my supervisor.
19 Q Who was your supervisor at the time, Mr. Risher?
20 A No, Rod Green.
21 Q Were you upset with the Florence County Sheriff's
22 Department already made a drug case on Mr. Anthony
23 Melton, Amp, and that's why he's in prison today, so
24 they didn't need you to make the buys?
25 A No, I was not upset.

1 MR. PLEXICO: I actually don't have
2 anything further of this witness.
3 THE COURT: Solicitor.
4 MS. JANOWSKI: Just real quickly, Your
5 Honor.
6 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
7 BY MS. JANOWSKI:
8 Q How did you know about this pill press?
9 A Through conversations with Mr. Lyons during
10 the buy. He indicated that he was getting these
11 pills from someone else.
12 Q So the reason you set this as your goal to get the
13 pill press is because the defendant told you he could
14 get it?
15 A Yes, ma'am.
16 Q Let's talk a little bit, just to clear up some of
17 the warrant situation, like with the warrant holding,
18 can you explain to the Court how that works when it
19 comes to CIs?
20 A Could you say it one more time?
21 Q It's okay. Can you explain to the Court how, you
22 know, you weren't tricking the defendant with not
23 letting him know that there was a warrant out, that's
24 how you handle CIs in an investigation. Can you
25 explain that, how you would have a warrant and not

1 tell the CI about it?
2 A Yes, ma'am. What we call a soft approach,
3 instead of going in and kicking the door in, and,
4 you know, kind of, alerting the entire
5 neighborhood, we end up going to pick him up. And
6 then from then, he gets the option of whether he
7 wants to cooperate or not in an investigation.
8 Part of that being that he saw me, and I was the
9 one doing the buys from him. That kind of deems
10 whether he thinks he should cooperate or not. A
11 lot of this is based on whether or not they
12 think -- I better not say that.
13 Q So when it comes to CIs, confidential informants,
14 it is within your normal practice, not trick them, but
15 as part of your investigation potentially have a
16 warrant out and not tell them about it?
17 A Yes, ma'am.
18 Q And that's common?
19 A Yes, ma'am. We do that practically every
20 single time. That way, if we do a soft approach
21 and they tell us that they are not willing to work
22 with us, then we take them to jail.
23 Q And, in this case, with the defendant, why didn't
24 you have the warrant served until May?
25 A Because that's when we deemed the

1 investigation was over with him and that he was
2 not reliable enough to continue to work with him,
3 so we served him then.
4 MS. JANOWSKI: I have no further
5 questions.
6 MR. PLEXICO: Your Honor, can I briefly?
7 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
8 RECROSS-EXAMINATION
9 BY MR. PLEXICO:
10 Q And you testified at the preliminary hearing,
11 correct?
12 A Yes, sir.
13 Q And you testified -- I asked if he provided
14 valuable intelligence. What was -- your answer is,
15 yes, he did.
16 A Yes, sir.
17 Q He did provide valuable intelligence. Okay.
18 A He told us who the drug dealer was in
19 Florence.
20 Q And he made buys from the drug dealer, correct?
21 A Yes, sir.
22 Q And is that a dangerous procedure to go make buys
23 from dug dealers when you're wired up in case
24 something goes wrong, it could go bad, right?
25 A In my opinions, it's probably the safest drug

1 buy he's ever done.
2 Q But if it goes bad, and the drug dealer you're
3 recording him, it could get ugly, couldn't it? I'm
4 asking. You're smiling again.
5 A I can't tell if you're asking a rhetorical
6 question.
7 Q I'm asking you, can it get ugly, can it get
8 dangerous if a drug dealer you're buying from --
9 A In my experience, that has never happened.
10 Q Okay.
11 MR. PLEXICO: Beg the Court's
12 indulgence.
13 BY MR. PLEXICO:
14 Q Okay. So you-all went out March 14th to make the
15 drug buy, correct, the first drug buy?
16 A On the date, you'll have to remind me on
17 that.
18 Q March 14th.
19 A Okay, yes. I see it.
20 Q That's the date you got the warrant?
21 A Okay.
22 Q You saw the warrant. You're not disputing this,
23 right?
24 A No. If that's what the warrant says.
25 Q Okay, so --

1 A I don't want to get hemmed up on small
2 details here.
3 Q Okay. All right. You-all put the date that the
4 case pertains to on the case file, right? On the lab
5 thing to turn in, the lab for the drugs.
6 A Yes.
7 Q This one, 4/29.
8 A Okay.
9 Q All right.
10 MR. PLEXICO: May I approach?
11 THE COURT: Yes, sir.
12 BY MR. PLEXICO:
13 Q Okay. All right. So you-all got the warrant and
14 went over there that day, because you-all were good.
15 You just held them back. So this warrant -- this bag
16 is 4/29.
17 A Yes, sir.
18 Q That's the buy on 4/29. This is the buy on 3/27.
19 A The buys weren't done on those dates.
20 Q Okay. Well, what's the dates for?
21 A It would have been within 72 hours previous
22 to that. Our policy says we can hold on to the
23 drugs for 72 hours within our lock box.
24 Q Okay. So this is within 72 hours of 4/29,
25 correct?

1 A Yes, sir.
2 Q This is within 72 hours of 3/27.
3 A Yes, sir.
4 Q Okay. This is within 72 hours of 3/18.
5 A Yes, sir.
6 Q That would push it back to no later than 3/16, 17,
7 18?
8 A Yes, sir.
9 Q 3/15.
10 A Yes, sir.
11 Q Where's the dope that he bought on 3/14? The
12 dates don't cover this. Where's the 3/14 dope,
13 Officer, that my client bought from Melton, Amp, in
14 Florence? Where's the 3/14 dope?
15 A That would have been the 3/18 dope.
16 Q That's way past -- that's past 72 hours?
17 A That's it. That's all the dope he bought.
18 MR. PLEXICO: I don't have anything
19 further.
20 THE COURT: Solicitor, anything further?
21 MS. JANOWSKI: Court's indulgence,
22 please, Your Honor. No further questions, Your
23 Honor.
24 THE COURT: All right, sir. Thank you
25 very much. You can step down. Anything further,

1 Solicitor?
2 MS. JANOWSKI: Nothing, Your Honor?
3 THE COURT: All right. Let me tell you
4 what we're going to do. We're going to take a
5 10-minute break, then we're going to get the jury
6 in here, I'm going to swear them in, give opening
7 statements, and I'm going to have -- we'll break
8 for lunch. That will give me some time to think
9 about it. I don't want to keep the jury waiting
10 any longer.
11 Is there any problem with that
12 Mr. Plexico?
13 MR. PLEXICO: I have nothing. I didn't
14 know if you wanted to hear a summary, anything
15 from us, but I'm not belaboring the point.
16 MS. JANOWSKI: Your Honor, are we going
17 to get the opportunity to make an argument now
18 that testimony has been presented to the Court?
19 THE COURT: I was going to allow you to
20 make an argument, but the problem is -- I'll tell
21 you what we're going to do -- would you like to
22 make an argument?
23 MS. JANOWSKI: Yes, sir.
24 THE COURT: Okay. Miss Nettles, why
25 don't you tell the jury to come back at 1:15.

1 It's a quarter to 12:00 now. So -- or have them
2 come back at one o'clock because we'll be at --
3 1:15. Well, everything takes longer. I'm
4 learning that. I'm learning that. Everything
5 takes longer. When he said an hour, I should have
6 known that's three hours. So we'll have him come
7 back because that will give us an opportunity to
8 have this, get some lunch, and start at 1:15 with
9 my instructions to the jury and then you-all's
10 opening argument.
11 Is this okay from the State?
12 MS. JANOWSKI: Yes, Your Honor.
13 THE COURT: Mr. Plexico, any problems or
14 concerns with that, sir? I'm willing to listen to
15 anything. You know that.
16 MR. PLEXICO: Not at all, Judge.
17 THE COURT: Let's do that.
18 THE CLERK: 1:15.
19 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am. Just tell them
20 the hearing this morning, the matters of law that
21 we're taking up, it's just lasting a little longer
22 than we thought. We'll start at 1:15.
23 MS. JANOWSKI: Can we take a brief
24 recess?
25 THE COURT: We're going to -- what I want

1 to do is, I want to wait a minute and let's let
2 the jury clear out.
3 THE COURT REPORTER: Are these going back
4 to the jury?
5 THE COURT: Mr. Plexico and Solicitor,
6 none of these exhibits are going back to the jury.
7 MS. JANOWSKI: No.
8 THE COURT: At one point -- she was
9 checking because you had made a remark that
10 defense exhibit, none of this -- this is all
11 court's exhibit, or for the purposes of this
12 hearing. Maybe some of the things in the trial
13 will be re-entered. I don't know. But for right
14 now, all of these documents, none of them go back
15 to the jury. They're just for the purposes of
16 this hearing .
17 Is that correct from the State?
18 MS. JANOWSKI: That's correct, Your
19 Honor.
20 THE COURT: And is that correct from the
21 defense?
22 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, Your Honor. They
23 should probably be put away. I would like to hold
24 on to the drug analysis so I don't forget to have
25 her qualify --

1 THE COURT: We'll find someplace to
2 separate those. Just give it one more minute.
3 I'm hearing some of the jurors walking out and
4 then we'll take a brief recess and then we can
5 pick back up okay?
6 MS. JANOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
7 THE COURT: All right. Ladies and
8 gentlemen, it's my understanding our jurors have
9 cleared out. So let's go ahead and we'll meet
10 back in here at noon.
11 MS. JANOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
12 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, Your Honor.
13 (A break was taken from 11:50 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)
14 THE COURT: Mr. Plexico, you have an
15 argument as it relates to your motion, sir?
16 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, Your Honor. I think
17 the crux of my motion goes to the authority to
18 enter into a plea agreement, Judge. Not a plea
19 agreement. To make a deal with a defendant upon
20 which you're holding a warrant as a law
21 enforcement officer. The constitutional structure
22 of the police powers in South Carolina, the chief
23 law enforcement officer is the elected attorney
24 general. The elected circuit solicitor come under
25 him and are under his authority. The circuit

1 solicitors are over -- have authority over the
2 local sheriff's departments, and the law
3 enforcement officers, and down to the assistant
4 solicitor. When the solicitor is not in town, the
5 lowliest is over the sheriff. And the sheriff and
6 the police chiefs are over their officers. The
7 attorney general has delegated authority for
8 officers to prosecute cases to act in solicitorial
9 authority in courts in South Carolina. They
10 prosecute cases in magistrate courts and municipal
11 courts; and, hence, should best be seen as
12 solicitors. I don't know of any case that says
13 I'm wrong on this.
14 Furthermore, even the attorney general's
15 office has said that -- I'm looking at -- they
16 have -- a law enforcement officer may arrest,
17 okay? And the word "may" is statutory other than
18 mandatory, made clearly, imposes no affirmative
19 duty on a law enforcement officer, and gives
20 officers flexibility and discretion to arrest a
21 person who violates provisions, Judge. State v.
22 Richards is a highway patrol officer who is
23 charged with discretionary exercise of his power.
24 They may arrest or may not. You might get a
25 warning ticket for speeding. You might get a real

1 ticket. It's all up to the officer and his
2 prosecution authority. The deemed prosecution
3 authority that's been vested in him by tradition
4 and by the hierarchy from the attorney general.
5 I believe that they also cite other
6 cases, Your Honor, in Hildegrand vs. Cox that
7 police officers must retain a live degree of
8 discretion in carrying out their duties and
9 enforcing the laws, exercising broad discretion,
10 determining the manner in which they will enforce
11 the laws. If it suits SLED to go out and try to
12 get other drugs, Judge, then that's their
13 discretion in whether or not to arrest somebody,
14 which goes to the crux of what my client was
15 saying.
16 You also have -- I gave you a stack of
17 cases from Reed vs. Becka, Judge, and Commonwealth
18 vs -- Massachusetts vs. Hubert Smith. People vs.
19 Voigt, which is a State of Illinois case. Layla
20 vs. United States, Your Honor, which is a 4th
21 Circuit case. They also point out the legislature
22 approved this discretion pointing out that when
23 they passed the amendment to the disturbing school
24 laws that law enforcement officials should also
25 maintain and apply officer discretion when

1 enforcing criminal laws of this state on school
2 ground.
3 So, in other words, they recognize the
4 principle. The legislature recognizes the
5 principle of officer discretion, Your Honor.
6 I think the big question comes down to
7 whether or not they have a right to enter into an
8 agreement with the defendant. I believe the State
9 will argue that only a solicitor, elected
10 solicitor, the attorney general who's elected, or
11 one of their agents would be able to enter into an
12 agreement. I think that's clearly wrong because I
13 think an agency and partnership law, the chief
14 officer -- as I've said, the chief law enforcement
15 officer is the elected attorney general down to
16 the solicitors, down to the sheriffs, down to the
17 police chiefs, down to the officers and deputies
18 on the street. Agency and partnership, Judge, I
19 believe the agency, that they are acting as agents
20 of the State and they can bind the State with an
21 agreement.
22 And I think that we put up more than
23 enough facts, Judge, to show that my client has --
24 there was an agreement, that they would not be
25 going to jail. That testimony was given that they

1 wouldn't even see a warrant when we know that was
2 untrue. The officers used my client who was
3 detrimental reliance, and this is just a ton of
4 dope that they have here, Judge. I mean, this
5 just -- all these drugs just cannot be ignored.
6 My client did a wonderful job of going out and
7 making buys. He had dangered and detrimental
8 reliance. He was called a snitch and attacked at
9 the jail. His mother had to move clear across the
10 state after he made a buy from her co-worker. And
11 they complained about that, that he didn't make
12 the buy from the right person. A dope dealer is a
13 dope dealer is a dope dealer.
14 Now, nobody would go out and go to all
15 this trouble, Judge, unless they had -- there was
16 an implied contract that my client would not be
17 going to jail. And that's held this back. They
18 disobeyed a court order. There is no authority at
19 all for law enforcement to disobey a court order
20 where a warrant says, which is a court order to go
21 out and serve it forthwith. Forthwith is now.
22 So they are purposely ignoring the law.
23 They are purposely not recording any of these
24 debriefings so they can be questioned about it.
25 It's always the client who is a drug inflicted

1 person or somebody less credible, in their eyes,
2 than the law enforcement officer.
3 Here they said my client gave them
4 valuable information. If you give them
5 valuable -- intelligence, excuse me. Valuable
6 intelligence, there's been detrimental reliance,
7 you've gone out, and Agent Maffett may have smiled
8 and giggled and laughed once, and he talked about
9 how he thought it was safe to go out and buy drugs
10 and set people up, and, actually, in reality -- I
11 think the common man on the street knows that
12 buying a large quantity of drugs is extremely
13 dangerous, Judge. He's endangered his life. He's
14 been attacked. He's got permanent brain damage,
15 he testified to from the hematoma after being
16 called a snitch. His mother was threatened,
17 Judge. His sister lives in fear. He's done a
18 great deal for the State. We're just asking for
19 enforcement of our agreement, Judge. And I just
20 don't see how they can possibly argue that the
21 police officers are not agents. I don't see how
22 anybody would just go out and make drug buys for
23 the police with no understanding.
24 THE COURT: Mr. Plexico, what authority
25 do you have that says that police officers are

1 agents of the solicitor or of the attorney
2 general? Where do you have that?
3 MR. PLEXICO: It's in the Constitution.
4 If you look, the chief law enforcement officer is
5 the attorney general, next you have, according to
6 the Constitution, it is the local elected
7 solicitors, the local elected solicitors are the
8 chief law enforcement officer, according to the
9 Constitution, of all the counties. They are above
10 the sheriffs. The sheriffs have to take their
11 direction. They must take that direction, that
12 makes you my agent.
13 THE COURT: You're relying upon the
14 Constitution.
15 MR. PLEXICO: The Constitution of agents.
16 THE COURT: But you don't have any case
17 law.
18 MR. PLEXICO: There has not been a case
19 that says that one way or the other. But I think
20 agency --
21 THE COURT: Do you have any cases that
22 say that they are required to move forward with
23 the warrant as opposed to what I think is probably
24 a very regular practice of not serving warrants.
25 I did criminal work, Mr. Plexico, as

1 you're aware for many years, and it would not be
2 unusual for a warrant to be signed and not served
3 for any number of reasons for a period of time.
4 So what I'm asking is, do you have any
5 case law that would indicate that law enforcement
6 is required to forthwith go and serve those
7 warrants immediately and doesn't have any
8 discretion as to whether to serve it or not?
9 MR. PLEXICO: Your Honor, no. And you're
10 certainly correct, there would be many reasons why
11 a warrant could not be served.
12 But here, when they refuse to serve a
13 warrant, which on the face of the warrant says to
14 serve forthwith, it's to their benefit, when they
15 withhold the warrant in order to go out and make
16 drug buys, which is duplicitous and unfair. That
17 shows how unfair they are manipulating the system.
18 While something might be standard practice, it
19 shouldn't be standard practice to undermine the
20 integrity of the court system by not signing
21 warrants and misleading.
22 THE COURT: I understand that. I was
23 just asking if you had any cases as it relates to
24 that issue. I understand your argument, sir.
25 MR. PLEXICO: I think this is novel, Your

1 Honor.
2 THE COURT: All right.
3 MR. PLEXICO: And I've never heard it
4 argued before.
5 THE COURT: All right. Anything else,
6 sir?
7 MR. PLEXICO: No, Your Honor.
8 THE COURT: All right. Yes, ma'am,
9 Solicitor.
10 MS. JANOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
11 May it please the Court?
12 THE COURT: Yes.
13 MS. JANOWSKI: So, really, we have, from
14 the written motion of the defense and the oral
15 motion that he's added to, we have three issues at
16 stake; whether there was a plea offer made,
17 whether the person -- the offerer had the
18 authority to do it, and whether there was
19 detrimental reliance.
20 First, no offer was made. We had agents
21 testify on the stand in court that they did not
22 make any promises. We even heard that back to the
23 prelims, that they did not make any promises of
24 how anything was going to go if the defendant
25 cooperated in this case.

1 Agent Maffett did testify that if the
2 defendant cooperated that he would go -- and they
3 got that goal of that pill press, that he would go
4 to the solicitor, to the prosecutor and say that
5 he was cooperative in an investigation.
6 So no one told the defendant that there
7 was a plea agreement, that there was a plea offer,
8 that any charges would be dropped, that he
9 wouldn't be arrested. Nothing to that extent.
10 And if we talk about the help that he
11 provided to the investigation, you see the drugs
12 here. You heard testimony that they were
13 unprosecute -- you know, they couldn't prosecute
14 them.
15 THE COURT: Now, hold on. And that was,
16 of course, SLED's decision. They decide.
17 MS. JANOWSKI: Correct.
18 THE COURT: But I want to make sure I
19 understand something, SLED decides whether or not
20 to prosecute, correct? That's what he testified
21 to.
22 MS. JANOWSKI: Whether or not they can
23 move forward with the charges and take them to the
24 prosecutor and charge a defendant, Your Honor.
25 THE COURT: They decided not to

1 prosecute, didn't he?
2 MS. JANOWSKI: That would be -- I think
3 that might be a misinterpretation.
4 THE COURT: Well --
5 MS. JANOWSKI: I understand -- if he said
6 that, Your Honor, that would be the end goal of
7 what they're doing. But if they decide a case is
8 not worthy, yes, sir.
9 THE COURT: But he said that he and
10 someone else, not the agent who is sitting behind
11 you, he and another agent decided that this matter
12 deemed it was not prosecutable. That's what he
13 testified to. So is --
14 MS. JANOWSKI: Which means they would not
15 have the proper -- you know, probable cause and
16 evidence to support moving forward.
17 THE COURT: They don't go to the
18 solicitor for input on whether a case is
19 prosecutable.
20 MS. JANOWSKI: No.
21 THE COURT: No. Even though you're the
22 prosecutor?
23 MS. JANOWSKI: They decide if there's
24 probable cause before it gets to us.
25 THE COURT: Okay.

1 MS. JANOWSKI: And then have grand jury
2 and everything in that capacity.
3 THE COURT: All right.
4 MS. JANOWSKI: And for the drugs that the
5 defendant was able to find -- you know, the
6 defendant, what led down this path was, he broke
7 the law and he doesn't, you know, get the chance
8 to decide for law enforcement whether or not he
9 provided what they -- you know, he provided these
10 drugs. He doesn't get to decide if that's good
11 enough. They had a discussion about the goal of
12 getting that pill press, and you heard that from
13 both of the agents that took the stand.
14 And I want to go back. You asked for
15 case law on law enforcement being able to make
16 these decisions, so I'm just going to hand up --
17 Permission to approach?
18 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.
19 MS. JANOWSKI: So I'm going to ask that
20 you turn to page 5 of the State v. Peake.
21 THE COURT: I'm very familiar with State
22 v. Pee.
23 MS. JANOWSKI: So, on page 5, there's the
24 power of Constitution granted to the AG to
25 supervise prosecution of criminal cases. It

1 includes power to decide whether or not to
2 prosecute.
3 And I will take you to page 4. It's
4 going to be closer down -- halfway down towards
5 the bottom where --
6 THE COURT: I have it highlighted.
7 MS. JANOWSKI: I'm sorry?
8 THE COURT: I have it highlighted.
9 MS. JANOWSKI: So I'm going to go through
10 on -- for your indulgence, Your Honor. On page 4,
11 law enforcement officers are utterly without power
12 and authority to grant an accused immunity from
13 arrest and prosecution for violating our criminal
14 laws. Then it moves forward with Green. We base
15 our decision to deny defendant's specific
16 performance based on the fact that the police
17 lacked the authority to make a binding promise of
18 immunity or not to prosecute. Onto Crow, the
19 sheriff has no standing to grant or offer immunity
20 as a bar to prosecution. And down at the bottom
21 of page 4 onto page 5, that law officers do not
22 have authority to promise immunity from
23 prosecution in exchange for information and such
24 promises are generally unenforceable.
25 So even if an offer was made, which the

1 State affirms that it was not, that the agent
2 spoke to that, pursuant to Peake, SLED agents are
3 not authorized to make an offer.
4 I'm going to go through on the defense's
5 motion. And I looked through all the case law,
6 and every single one of them refers only to a
7 prosecutor or a solicitor when it comes to plea
8 deals and backing out. I didn't see anywhere in
9 any of his case law that there was anything to do
10 with law enforcement making that decision.
11 If I go down on Mr. Plexico's, page 2 on
12 the second paragraph, he says that Reed cites
13 cases in other states that have the same
14 proposition, but if you're reading above that and
15 he's making you think that that proposition is
16 that law enforcement officers are prosecutors too.
17 However, that is not what the proposition is. The
18 proposition that Reed supports is that law
19 enforcement -- they cannot do that. There has to
20 be two separate things.
21 I'm going to hand up some more case law.
22 Do you have Reed up there, Your Honor, already? I
23 can hand it to you.
24 THE COURT: I got Peake, and I've
25 Costello vs. State.

1 MS. JANOWSKI: I will hand it up to
2 you.
3 THE COURT: And Reed. Let's see. This
4 may be the second one. I got State v. Peake. You
5 gave me two copies of State v. Peake.
6 MS. JANOWSKI: It was one for your clerk,
7 Your Honor.
8 THE COURT: I'm sorry.
9 MS. JANOWSKI: I'm going to hand up. I
10 am going to hand -- I think I only have enough to
11 give Reed v. Becka and Custodio v. State. And
12 this is the Reed that Mr. Plexico referred to in
13 his motion. In Reed v. Becka, absent a plea of
14 guilty a defendant may only enforce an oral
15 agreement upon a showing of detrimental reliance.
16 That's on page 8. He did make the buys. But what
17 he didn't do was provide that pill press to law
18 enforcement, which was the goal. Which the
19 defendant got on the stand and he's talking about
20 he got video of that pill press and we still don't
21 have that pill press.
22 And I want to take you to Custodio v.
23 State which heavily, heavily, heavily relies on
24 Reed. And this is a 2007 Supreme Court case. I
25 realize it has the caution up at the top, but it's

1 not for this circumstances. There's two
2 requirements for an agreement -- two conditions
3 for an agreement not to prosecute. Number 1, the
4 agent must be authorized to make the promise and
5 -- and, number 2, the defendant must rely to his
6 detriment on that promise. That's not an "or."
7 That's an "and."
8 So, again, we're saying, even if the
9 agent said something to the effect of his
10 interpretation that an agreement was made, the
11 defendant's interpretation, they didn't have the
12 authority to do that. And our case law supports
13 that they did not.
14 And as for detrimental reliance, he did
15 provide, he did take steps. But I want to take
16 you to Mr. Plexico's -- where he quotes on the
17 second page, he talks about Commonwealth v. Smith,
18 and he says the test is to whether there is an
19 enforceable promise as to whether the defendant
20 had reasonable grounds for assuming his
21 interpretation of the bargain and whether he
22 relied on that interpretation to his detriment.
23 In this case, which is a 1981 in
24 Massachusetts, the prosecutor is the one who made
25 it. The facts don't fit. Again, it wasn't law

1 enforcement who made it, so that's not the test we
2 go by. It's not in our case law that we go by.
3 And it was -- the facts don't fit. Because this
4 was after in the Commonwealth that the jury had
5 already gone back to deliberate and they came back
6 with a question and then the defendant wanted to
7 enforce a plea equipment. So it just doesn't fit
8 into the facts that we have here.
9 Your Honor, since we don't meet either
10 what Custodio provides, Reed provides, or what
11 Peake provides, I'm going to ask that you accept
12 -- that the Court accepts that a plea offer was
13 never made, that on the slight chance that an
14 offer was made, the agents didn't have the
15 authority to do that. As for detrimental
16 reliance, if we're going that route, we're saying
17 he took steps. We know he bought drugs, but that
18 was never discussed, just the buying drugs. The
19 goal was that pill press.
20 Whether or not he got beat up in the
21 jail, who knows how he got his injury for the
22 medical records that you have. I have a
23 different -- you know, different witnesses that
24 would testify to different things on that. That
25 was the first time of me seeing that.

1 So, Your Honor, for these reasons, not
2 meeting either one of the levels or of the
3 conditions of stopping the prosecution, I ask that
4 you deny the defendant's motion for specific
5 performance.
6 THE COURT: Very briefly.
7 MR. PLEXICO: Very briefly. Your Honor,
8 first, I want to point out that the authority of the
9 chief law enforcement officer of South Carolina, the
10 attorney general, okay, is over the circuit
11 solicitors, the circuit solicitor's agents are the
12 assist solicitors, so the agency principle is
13 enshrined in our Constitution and down to our local
14 prosecution officers.
15 THE COURT: Isn't that a different
16 branch? It's a different brand of government?
17 MR. PLEXICO: No, no. They are -- law
18 enforcement, they are the chief -- Constitution
19 says the chief law enforcement officer --
20 THE COURT: Right.
21 MR. PLEXICO: -- is the attorney general.
22 Okay? State v. Peake has to with DHEC. DHEC is
23 not in the chain of partnership. Excuse me. The
24 chain of agency where DHEC cut a deal he would not
25 be prosecuted. He's not being supervised. DHEC

1 officers are not being supervised by the attorney
2 general because it's a different department. It's
3 the true executive department. So that's
4 distinguishable.
5 So the question here goes back to whether
6 or not, as they delegate the authority to make
7 these deals and SLED can decide something can be
8 prosecuted or not, they're not even running it by
9 a solicitor, if that's not an exercise on
10 prosecutorial authority, acquiescence from the
11 local solicitors, I don't know what is.
12 So, they're all agents of each other.
13 And law enforcement officers are the agents. So,
14 I mean, it's just clear to me that they have
15 delegated and acquiesced in the exercise of law
16 enforcement officers particularly the SLED agents
17 exercising prosecutorial powers.
18 And since today, they want to deny what
19 they're doing yesterday, they're doing somewhere
20 in South Carolina today and they will do tomorrow,
21 and with no oversight and they -- that is, I
22 think, just outrageous and it's against my
23 client's interest. And, obviously, he was
24 detrimental relying, he was physically injured.
25 I've gone over all that, Judge. We have a ton of

1 drugs here. In this whole ruse of -- whoever
2 heard of sending somebody out to buy a pill press.
3 That's just bizarre.
4 THE COURT: All right.
5 MR. PLEXICO: It's a bizarre ruse.
6 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.
7 MS. JANOWSKI: I just wanted to follow
8 up. We're harping on SLED saying they prosecute,
9 but what -- if we were to say -- to go with that
10 on its face, we know that every law enforcement
11 agency in our state, they are in charge of
12 determining whether or not there's probable cause
13 to move forward with the prosecution. And that is
14 what our agents were testifying to, not whether or
15 not we're going to court with this. They're
16 deciding whether or not they have enough to move
17 forward with charging and probable cause and get a
18 warrant, Your Honor.
19 THE COURT: All right. Your witnesses
20 are terrible. Your witnesses were not truthful.
21 One of them was laughing at questions that
22 Mr. Plexico was addressing. And while they were
23 elementary questions, there's no need to be
24 laughing and making googly faces. How
25 disrespectful. It's disrespectful to the officers

1 of this court. It's disrespectful to this Court.
2 They said what they said. I have been
3 haven't been on the bench long, but I practiced
4 law a long time. I mean, the first gentleman was
5 just deceitful in what he was saying, that he
6 didn't recall. He's the lead investigator. Then
7 to the fellow probably was your real lead
8 investigator who was the guy who supervised all
9 the buys wants to sit there and laugh. And then
10 they don't want to prosecute this because they
11 can't find a pill press. I believe you. They
12 were after a pill press. Absolutely they were
13 after a pill press. And he would have said
14 anything and made any promise to get that pill
15 press. That's what he wanted.
16 Then he walks in and the guy doesn't do a
17 good job because he's hooked on drugs. They knew
18 he was hooked on drugs. They walk in there, they
19 know it. He was in the hospital the day before.
20 I believe the day before, or two or three day
21 before having OD'd. And they know he's a user,
22 and then they're upset because he's not providing
23 the type of information that they wanted, but he
24 does go and buy what looks to me to be dozens, and
25 dozens, and dozens of pills but they can't

1 prosecute it because Amp gets picked up somewhere
2 else, they just throw this aside. I absolutely
3 believe that they made a promise to him.
4 The testimony of the defense witnesses
5 were consistent throughout. They were sequestered
6 and they were consistent. They were consistent as
7 to who was there. There they were consistent as
8 to say what was said. They were consistent as to
9 what their understanding was. And, quite frankly,
10 I think their testimony was consistent and their
11 interpretation was reasonable under those
12 circumstances. And I find it even more reasonable
13 after hearing from the SLED officers.
14 You know, having said all that, however,
15 I do believe there is some serious consideration
16 and serious issues, Mr. Plexico, with the law.
17 What I'm doing is, I'm looking at two
18 cases that got handed up to me. When I read these
19 cases, and I read these cases more than once, and,
20 yes, I understand that I think Peake was dealing
21 with a DHEC matter, but some of the dicta that's
22 in here, what it talks about is, law enforcement
23 officers are utterly without power and authority
24 to grant an accused immunity from arrest and
25 prosecution for violating our criminal laws. And

1 I submit that if the court -- if they thought that
2 that wasn't important, or wasn't relevant, I don't
3 think that they would have included that language
4 in this case. I think that I can only assume that
5 that language was included because it was
6 important. "We base our decisions to deny the
7 defendant's specific performance on the fact that
8 the police lacked the authority to make a binding
9 promise of immunity or not to prosecute."
10 I mean, do I think that they put
11 themselves forward, Mr. Plexico, as having
12 apparent authority to do that? Yeah, I do. But
13 then the question I think ultimately comes, even
14 if they did that, did they have the authority?
15 And when I look to -- that was Peake case. This
16 is the Custodio, C-u-s-t-o-d-i-o, which is a -- it
17 may have been overturned on some other grounds.
18 I'm not sure. It's a opinion number 26296. Here
19 it is. I'm sorry. 644 S.E.2d 36. It does state
20 on page 6 that enforcement over the agreement not
21 to prosecute is subject to two conditions. One,
22 the agent must be authorized to make the promise,
23 and, two, the defendant must rely on the
24 detriment -- and, Mr. Plexico, I do believe he
25 relied upon the promise. And I do believe that

1 the reliance was detrimental. I do believe that
2 he was beat up in jail. I do believe that his
3 mother had to move. I do believe that he faced
4 danger when he went and he made those buys. I
5 believe that.
6 MR. PLEXICO: Your Honor, one of these
7 says that a promise by law enforcement is
8 generally enforceable. So I believe the court --
9 I'm looking for it now -- has not ruled out all
10 promises.
11 THE COURT: Yeah, it says that on the
12 page 5 of the Peake matter, Mr. Plexico. At the
13 top of page 5, left-hand column.
14 All right. We'll be at ease for a few
15 minutes.
16 (A break was taken from 12:33 p.m. to 12:56 p.m.)
17 THE BAILIFF: Court come to order.
18 THE COURT: You can be seated.
19 All right. Mr. Plexico, I'm going to
20 deny your motion. I understand your motion.
21 You've heard my interpretation of what I think
22 most of this evidence has shown. The problem that
23 I have is that I think that I'm bound by the
24 language that is contained in the Peake case and
25 in the Custodio, C-u-s-t-o-d-i-o, case. And while

1 I do believe, yes, sir, I believe that the
2 evidence is that there certainly, most probably
3 was a promise, I think that he relied upon the
4 promise, and I think that that reliance to his
5 detriment. I do believe that those things
6 happened.
7 However, I believe that law enforcement,
8 SLED in this case, did not have the authority to
9 enter into the agreement. And, again, quoting
10 from the Peake case, law enforcement officers are
11 utterly without power and authority to grant an
12 accused immunity from arrest and prosecution for
13 violating criminal laws.
14 And for that reason, sir, I am going to
15 respectfully deny your motion, Mr. Plexico.
16 All right. Are there any other matters
17 that we need to take up from the State before
18 moving forward?
19 MS. JANOWSKI: Your Honor, I also would
20 like make a motion in limine to prevent the
21 defense in line with your denial of his motion for
22 a specific performance to prevent him from
23 including in his line of questioning anything
24 about a plea agreement or any buys that were done.
25 They're not relevant to what we're here for. All

1 MS. JANOWSKI: That's correct.
2 THE COURT: That's fine. In the
3 meantime, also, Solicitor, I need a bench warrant.
4 I take it your client -- is the defendant here?
5 THE DEPUTY: No, sir.
6 THE COURT: All right. I want a bench
7 warrant issued for his arrest, please.
8 MS. JANOWSKI: Yes, sir, Your Honor.
9 THE COURT: All right. We'll be at ease
10 for just a few minutes until she can get the
11 photograph taken care of. All right? Thank
12 you-all.
13 MR. PLEXICO: May I go outside and make
14 some harassing phone calls, Your Honor?
15 THE COURT: Whatever you need to do,
16 Mr. Plexico. You work your magic, sir.
17 MR. PLEXICO: Thank you, Your Honor.
18 (A break was taken from 2:33 p.m. to 2:58 p.m.)
19 THE COURT: We got our photograph?
20 Whatever we need?
21 MS. MUSSER: Yes, sir.
22 THE COURT: Okay, great.
23 MR. PLEXICO: Did you-all take off the
24 number?
25 MS. MUSSER: She did.

1 Judge, I can hand up the bench warrant.
2 THE COURT: Have you seen it?
3 MR. PLEXICO: No, Your Honor. I spoke
4 with the mother and she's heartbroken. She
5 doesn't know where he's at.
6 THE COURT: Okay, thank you. All right.
7 Solicitor, are we ready to move forward?
8 Anything from the State?
9 MS. JANOWSKI: Nothing from the State.
10 THE COURT: Anything from you,
11 Mr. Plexico, before I bring the jury in, sir?
12 MR. PLEXICO: Nothing, Your Honor.
13 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.
14 (Jury enters the courtroom at 3:03 p.m.)
15 THE COURT: All right. ladies and
16 gentlemen continue with the trial of the case.
17 Solicitor, call your next witness?
18 MS. JANOWSKI: The State calls
19 Jamaur Bennett.
20 THE CLERK: Mr. Bennett, place your left
21 on the Bible and raise your right hand. Do you
22 solemnly swear tell the truth, the whole truth,
23 and nothing but the truth so help you God?
24 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.
25 THE CLERK: Just have a seat.

JUROR 66: Thank you.

THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

(Alternate excused at 12:21 p.m.)

THE COURT: Mr. Plexico, I'm informed we have a verdict, sir.

MR. PLEXICO: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: What I would like to do is, are we ready to receive the verdict from the State?

MS. JANOWSKI: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: From the defense?

MR. PLEXICO: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. If you go get us the jury, please. Thank you, sir.

(Jury enters courtroom the 12:35.)

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Foreman, I understand the jury has reached a verdict.

FOREPERSON: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Could you hand that to the bailiff?

FOREPERSON: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Thank you, sir.

All right. Ma'am Clerk, I'll have you publish the verdict, please.

THE CLERK: Yes, sir.

1 State of South Carolina, County of
2 Hampton, State of South Carolina vs. Ronald Lee
3 Lyons, defendant and indictment numbers
4 2019-GS-25209, 2019-GS-25-210, 2019-GS-25-211,
5 Verdict Form. Number 1 on the charges of
6 distribution of fentanyl, we, the jury, find the
7 defendant Ronald Lyons, guilty.
8 Number 2 on the charges of trafficking in
9 heroin in four grams or more, but less than 14
10 grams, we, the jury, find Ronald Lyons, guilty.
11 Number 4 on the charges of trafficking in
12 methamphetamine 10 grams or more, but less than 28
13 grams, we, the jury, find the defendant, Ronald
14 Lyons, guilty.
15 Signed the foreperson, Jeffrey Holland,
16 November 17, 2021.
17 THE COURT: All right. Is there anything
18 from the State before I discharge the jury?
19 MS. JANOWSKI: Nothing from the State,
20 Your Honor.
21 THE COURT: Mr. Plexico, anything from
22 the defense, sir?
23 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, sir. I ask that the
24 jury be polled, Your Honor.
25 THE COURT: Madame Clerk, would you poll

1 MS. JANOWSKI: The meth says 10 grams or
2 more but less than 28 grams for a first offense, a
3 term of imprisonment of not less than three years
4 nor more than 10 years, no part of which may be
5 suspended nor probation granted and a fine of
6 $25,000.
7 MR. PLEXICO: My point is, they add the
8 fine after that, so they break it in two. You
9 have a sentence which can't be suspended and a
10 fine, but they don't put after the fine which
11 cannot be suspended.
12 THE COURT: All right. I'm going to hold
13 this, the three sentences sheets, place them in
14 the envelope. I'm going to hermetically seal it
15 now. Put this in a mason jar. What I did is, on
16 the outside, I wrote sentencing sheets,
17 Ronald Lyons, my name, my judge number 2770,
18 11/17/21 and I put TIA. All right? Does that
19 meet with your approval from the State?
20 MS. JANOWSKI: Yes, Your Honor.
21 THE COURT: Mr. Plexico?
22 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, Your Honor.
23 All right. Great, I'll send that off to
24 Miss Nettles.
25 Off the record.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS
219-GS-25-00209
COUNTY OF HAMPTON

State of South Carolina,

Plaintiff,

vs. TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING

Ronald Lyons,

Defendant.

February 3, 2022
Hampton, South Carolina

B E F O R E:

The Honorable Michael Nettles, Judge Presiding

A P P E A R A N C E S:

FOR THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA:

Rachel Janowski, Esq.
Fourteenth Circuit Solicitor's Office
P.O. Box 840
Fairfax, South Carolina 29827

FOR THE DEFENDANT:

Steve Plexico, Esq.
Fourteenth Circuit Public Defender's Office
Courthouse Annex
P.O. Box 506
Hampton, South Carolina 29924

Kymberlee M. Williams, CSR/RPR
Official Circuit Court Reporter III
Post Office Box 8091
Beaufort, South Carolina 29903

I N D E X

Proceedings 3

Certificate of Court Reporter 16

1 P R O C E E D I N G S
2 * * *
3 MS. JANOWSKI: The Defendant was found guilty
4 on all three counts, which is possession -- or
5 distribution of fentanyl, trafficking heroine,
6 and trafficking meth by a Jury on November 17th,
7 2021, after he fled the Courthouse during the
8 proceedings. He was tried in his absence, and
9 Judge Bonds sealed his sentence. The incident
10 that he was convicted of had occurred on
11 February 28th, 2019, and I ask you at this time
12 to publish his sentence, Your Honor.
13 THE COURT: All right, and, Mr. Plexico, I
14 understand the nature of this, essentially, Mr.
15 Lyons, you were tried in your absence. You
16 participated in a portion of the trial; is --
17 isn't that correct?
18 MR. LYONS: Yes, sir, it was a pre-trial
19 motion to dismiss, based on detrimental rights.
20 THE COURT: Right.
21 MR. LYONS: I did -- I left. I was scared,
22 Your Honor, it's -- I'm not -- I'm not dying in
23 jail, due to cooperation with SLED. I set
24 people up for two months for them, and then
25 after the SLED Agent lied on the stand, was

1 called lying to the Judge, called him a liar in
2 the Courtroom, and I may be wrong for saying it
3 this way, but it maybe -- it maybe -- maybe it's
4 wrong, Your Honor, questioned his ethics, with
5 you catching the Judge lying on the stand -- I
6 mean the Judge caught the man lying on the
7 stand, called him a liar several times in the
8 Courtroom. And I -- I questioned the ethics,
9 when he stood to dismiss it, and didn't say
10 anything about charging the -- just let him --
11 THE COURT: Well, I've -- I'll give you an
12 opportunity to be heard momentarily, but you
13 understand that the procedure, once you left,
14 they continued to try you; and based on the
15 evidence that were presented, the Jury found the
16 -- the State had proved beyond a reasonable
17 doubt that you were guilty. And -- and when
18 you're not present, the Judge -- I think it was
19 Judge Bonds --
20 MR. LYONS: Yes, sir.
21 THE COURT: -- if I'm correct, if I'm not
22 mistaken. Judge Bonds --
23 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, sir.
24 THE COURT: -- Bonds sentenced you, and it is
25 my duty and responsibility to publish the

1 verdict. I -- I can't --
2 MR. LYONS: I understand.
3 THE COURT: -- change it, that's all -- that's
4 my responsibility here today, and I'll be glad
5 to hear from you, Mr. Plexico.
6 MR. PLEXICO: Yes, Your Honor, as of today he
7 has 468 days credit for time served, which I
8 think he's going to be entitled to all his
9 credit for time served. And he did find -- what
10 the Judge found was, that even though my client
11 worked for SLED, and did a substantial amount of
12 work for SLED, we brought in a pile of drugs
13 that he had gone out and bought on behalf of
14 SLED, and gave it to them, from anybody that he
15 was doing drugs with. They came and busted him
16 in March, but they didn't put him in jail, until
17 they were done with him until May, and what the
18 Judge found was that there was a afforded offer
19 made by SLED. They wanted him to go out and do
20 A, B, and C, but that to cut a deal, so this way
21 he wouldn't see the inside of a jail. That,
22 generally, I believe the case they relied on, I
23 don't have it in front of me, I think it's,
24 generally, the police are utterly, without
25 authority, to enter into a plea deal on the part

1 of the State; and that's what he based his
2 ruling on, and, therefore, we proceeded the
3 trial, and he was found guilty, and my client
4 kind of gave up at that point, because he had
5 felt he had been used.
6 THE COURT: All right.
7 MR. PLEXICO: And we would ask -- well, I
8 don't know what the sentence is, but we would --
9 we believe we have the right to motion the Court
10 to amend the sentence, in view of that.
11 THE COURT: Well, my understanding was, I'm
12 not in a position to change a verdict. My
13 suggestion would be to appeal the case, and then
14 offer some post-conviction remedies, as well.
15 MR. PLEXICO: Well, my client will file the
16 notice of appeal. The Office of Indigent
17 Defense in Columbia will handle that, and he's
18 well aware of his right for a post-conviction
19 relief hearing.
20 THE COURT: All right. All right. Mr. Lyons,
21 on 2019-GS-25-00211, trafficking meth, the
22 sentence of the Court is you be committed to the
23 State Department of Corrections for a period of
24 15 years. The sentence will run concurrent, and
25 credit for 19 days at the time of the

1 sentencing, but you will be afforded the
2 additional credit, when you arrive at the
3 Department of Corrections. I want to advise on
4 2019-GS-25-00210, trafficking of heroine, the
5 sentence of the Court is that you be committed
6 to the State Department of Corrections for a
7 period of 15 years. The sentence will run
8 concurrent and credit for 19 days.
9 With regard to 2019-GS-25-00209, distribution
10 of Schedule 2, Fentanyl, the sentence of the
11 Court is that you be committed to the State
12 Department of Corrections for a period of 15
13 years. The sentence will run concurrent and
14 credit for 419 days.
15 And the statute affords you credit for the
16 time that you've served since then. I wish you
17 the best of luck. Good luck to you, Mr. Lyons.
18 MR. PLEXICO: Your Honor, just to protect the
19 record, I understand your ruling, but I would
20 motion the Court to give him the minimum seven-
21 year sentence in regards to these cases.
22 THE COURT: Okay. I'm -- I'm not at liberty
23 to do that. I'm here simply to publish. Good
24 luck to you.
25 MS. JANOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.

1 MR. PLEXICO: Why don't you ask him. You ask
2 him, I don't know what you're talking about.
3 MR. LYONS: Your Honor, I don't -- I was
4 already on the way to jail, I understand I've
5 got to go to prison, it's out of your hands,
6 and --
7 THE COURT: I can't understand. I'm sorry,
8 sir.
9 MR. LYONS: I understand that I have to go to
10 prison, I know it's out of your hands. I almost
11 died in County Jail, due to being a confidential
12 informant.
13 Is there any way that y'all could order me for
14 the state-wide protective custody thing?
15 THE COURT: All right, well, I'm going to
16 allow your lawyer to speak with the head of the
17 Department of Corrections, to try and make some
18 accommodations in that regard.
19 MR. LYONS: Thank you.
20 THE COURT: Good luck to you.
21 MR. LYONS: Thank you.
22 MR. PLEXICO: And he can also request that,
23 and give the reason for that.
24 THE COURT: Yes.
25 MR. PLEXICO: That's normally what happens.

1 MR. LYONS: Would you speak with him, as well
2 --
3 MR. PLEXICO: I will relay your orders.
4 Do you want to hear from his family? I have
5 some family members out here, that wanted to
6 speak, but I don't know --
7 THE COURT: Well, I'd be glad to hear from
8 them. Given the nature of the proceeding, I
9 don't anticipate that it would be productive,
10 but I'll be glad to hear from them.
11 MR. PLEXICO: Come on up, if you want to
12 speak. state your name for the record, before
13 you address the Court.
14 MS. LYONS: Barbara Joy Lyons.
15 THE COURT: I'll be glad to hear from you,
16 yes, ma'am.
17 MS. LYONS: I just want to say my son he OD'd
18 in my house on March 13th. I woke up hearing
19 his girlfriend screaming, and I jumped up and
20 hollered, "What's going on?" And she said,
21 "He's not breathing."
22 I got in his bedroom, they couldn't find a
23 heartbeat, couldn't find nothing. I tried doing
24 CPR. Got there at the hospital, I had no idea
25 it was the drug dealer that I was talking to,

1 because I work at a seafood restaurant right
2 here in town for years. I just assumed it was
3 somebody that knew me from there.
4 And I told him I did not understand why, as
5 his mother, I could not have him put in a rehab
6 somewhere, because he certainly didn't that.
7 And I just don't -- the next day I was getting
8 ready to go to work, I got a phone call from the
9 same man that I talked with at the hospital, and
10 he wanted to speak to my son.
11 He wasn't there, so I called him and got in
12 touch with him, told him I was trying to get in
13 touch with him. I went to work unaware what was
14 going on. They were coming in to help him,
15 'cause my daughter calls, "Mama, you might want
16 to come home, SLED Agents are in your house."
17 And when I come in, and I asked -- at first I
18 went to Detective -- I can't recall his name --
19 'cause I thought they'd come out to get him help
20 that he needed.
21 The cop -- the SLED Agent put his hand in my
22 face, and said, "You can shut up right now." He
23 said, "This has nothing to do with yesterday."
24 He said, "We don't know where your son has drugs
25 at, but they're not in your house, we've already

1 searched."
2 So instead of trying to get him help, and they
3 come in Court and said, that every time they met
4 with him he was high, instead of trying to get
5 him help, that he sat there and stacked charges,
6 after charges. They didn't have to do that.
7 I just think that that's wrong. And that they
8 lied under oath, when we came in here, and down
9 -- downplayed -- the Solicitor said that her
10 understanding, that they were playing a game
11 until -- and he got choked out, that's not what
12 happened. He was assaulted, never seen what hit
13 him. I have the tape, the -- the -- at first
14 they lied, and the County continued to lie to
15 the lawyer I have, there was no tape. There was
16 no tape, when he finally got his hands on it.
17 There is a tape that proves he'd never seen
18 nothing coming. He was knocked out, and hit his
19 head.
20 The guy come on and just started banging him.
21 He ended up having to go to -- I called -- when
22 he called the day before, he said he was happy,
23 because someone told him that he was gonna get
24 to make a rehab. I never got called back, so I
25 knew something was wrong. I called the

1 Jailhouse, I was told by the Director, Mr. Jones
2 that, yes, there was something wrong, that my
3 son was in the hospital. And I said, "Can I see
4 him?" He says, "He's in Medical University,"
5 and I knew then it had to be bad, because
6 there's -- there's a hospital right here.
7 He told me at that time, he said, "I'm not
8 supposed to let you, but I will allow you."
9 He's got two Officers there with him, and I'll
10 allow you to go see him." I drove all the way
11 to Charleston by myself, get there, lied to by
12 the hospital, "Oh, he's not here, you're
13 confused, you got it wrong." "No, I don't."
14 And I refused to leave the hospital, until
15 finally -- they finally -- when they heard me on
16 my phone, trying to get in touch with attorneys,
17 that they had the woman come down from ICU, and
18 told me that my son was laying in the ICU, had
19 about 20 people, they're working on him.
20 He had two brain bleeds. I'm gonna have to
21 leave town, because of all this, because one of
22 the people they had him set up was a girl that I
23 work with. They claimed they want to pill press
24 -- pill press so bad, when he went to make the
25 buy from her, and he was wired, he had a picture

1 of the pill press.
2 Now, when they come to Court, they claim they
3 don't have any of the evidence, where he made
4 the buy, the -- they don't have none of that,
5 just like the SLED Agent told me that they would
6 come to my house.
7 THE COURT: All right, yes, ma'am, yes ma'am.
8 That really gets into the merits of the case.
9 That was what was presented to the Jury, and
10 this really -- this procedure has more to do
11 with the sentence, and I'll be glad to hear from
12 you in that regard.
13 MS. LYONS: I -- I would like for him to have
14 protection wherever he is sent to, because,
15 yeah, he's going in known as the snitch, and his
16 life is all -- already been affected by all
17 this.
18 THE COURT: All right. That's --
19 MS. LYONS: And I just really would like for
20 him to get that opportunity.
21 THE COURT: Well, thank you so much.
22 MR. LYONS: There are other things that
23 happened --
24 THE COURT: All right, well, those -- those
25 would be issues that can be addressed on appeal.

1 MR. LYONS: That's confi- -- confidential.
2 THE COURT: But -- well, the -- there is a
3 Supreme Court Order that says that they can --
4 MR. PLEXICO: They can try to use the law
5 procedure, and if they go into that, then --
6 THE COURT: Yeah.
7 MR. PLEXICO: -- they could have it, but they
8 did not into it, I've already asked.
9 THE COURT: All right, well, those are matters
10 that can be addressed in appeal, and, Mr.
11 Plexico, as I've explained to you, my -- it's my
12 understanding of the law under receiving the
13 sentence, I -- my duty is simply to publish the
14 verdict, but to the extent, if I could change
15 another Circuit Court's Order, which I don't
16 think I could, I'm not inclined to do so, that
17 would, specifically, sustain the sentence;
18 however, all of those matters will be -- you'll
19 be protected for appellate purposes, and I wish
20 you the best of luck.
21 Good luck to you.
22 MR. JANOWSKI: Thank you, Your Honor.
23 MS. LYONS: Thank you.
24 THE COURT: Thank you all.
25 MS. LYONS: Can I hug my son, please?

1 THE COURT: Do what?
2 MS. LYONS: Can I please hug my son?
3 THE COURT: They can visit him in the
4 Detention Center.
5 THE COURT: You can -- you can speak to him at
6 the Detention Center. Good luck to you.
7 MS. LYONS: Let me -- let me out of here.
8 THE COURT: That will conclude this hearing.
9 (At 11:10 a.m. the proceedings were
10 concluded.)
11 ***
12 END OF TRANSCRIPT
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1
2 **CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER**
3
4 I, Kymberlee M. Williams, Certified Shorthand
5 Reporter/Registered Professional Reporter for the 14th
6 Judicial Circuit for the State of South Carolina, do hereby
7 certify that the foregoing is a true, accurate, and complete
8 Transcript of Record of the proceedings had, evidence
9 introduced in the trial of the captioned case, relative to
10 appeal, in the Court of Common Pleas Court for Beaufort
11 County, South Carolina, on the 3rd day of February, 2022.
12 I do further certify that I am neither of kin, counsel, or
13 interest to any party hereto.
14
15 This, the 3rd day of May, 2022.
16
17 Kymberlee Mignarelli Williams
18
19
20
21
22

150 **WITNESSES**

SLED J. Maffett

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

2019A2510200044

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

TRUE BILL

Detra Green

Foreperson of Grand Jury

Date: 3/22/2021

VERDICT

Foreperson of Petit Jury

Date:

INDICT

DOCKET NO. 2019GS2500209

The State of South Carolina

County of Hampton

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

March Term 2021

THE STATE

vs.

Ronald Lee Lyons

Indictment For

Distribution of Schedule II Drug, Fentanyl

SC Code: 44-53-370(b)(1)

CDR Code: 0183

After being fully advised as to my legal rights, I hereby waive presentment to the Grand Jury.

Defendant

I _____

hereby appear in my own proper person and plead guilty to the within indictment or to

Defendant

Witness:

C.C.C. PLS. and G.S.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF HAMPTON)

INDICTMENT

2019GS2500209

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on March 22, 2021, the Grand Jurors of Hampton County present upon their oath:

Distribution of Schedule II Drug, Fentanyl

That in Hampton County, South Carolina, on or about February 28, 2018, the Defendant, Ronald Lee Lyons, did manufacture, distribute, dispense, deliver, or purchase or aid, abet, attempt, or conspire to manufacture, distribute, dispense, deliver, or purchase or possess with the intent to manufacture, distribute, dispense, deliver, or purchase Fentanyl, which was a controlled substance classified in Schedule I (b) or (c) which was a narcotic drug, or lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD), or in Schedule II which was a narcotic drug, all in violation of Section 44-53-370(b)(1), et al. of the Codes of Law of South Carolina

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.

Solicitor

152 **WITNESSES**

SLED J. Maffett

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

2019A2510200045

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

TRUE BILL

Debra Green

Foreperson of Grand Jury

Date: 3/22/2021

VERDICT

Foreperson of Petit Jury

Date:

INDICT

DOCKET NO. 2019GS2500210

The State of South Carolina

County of Hampton

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

March Term 2021

THE STATE

vs.

Ronald Lee Lyons

Indictment For

Trafficking in Heroin, 4 grams or more but less than 14 grams, 1st Offense

SC Code: 44-53-370(e)(3)(a)(1)

CDR Code: 2361

After being fully advised as to my legal rights, I hereby waive presentment to the Grand Jury.

Defendant

I _____

hereby appear in my own proper person and plead guilty to the within indictment or to

Defendant

Witness:

C.C.C. PLS. and G.S.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF HAMPTON)

INDICTMENT

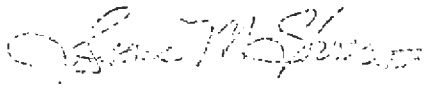
2019GS2500210

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on March 22, 2021, the Grand Jurors of Hampton County present upon their oath:

Trafficking in Heroin, 4 grams or more but less than 14 grams, 1st Offense

That in Hampton County, South Carolina, on or about February 28, 2019, the Defendant, Ronald Lee Lyons, did knowingly sell, manufacture, cultivate, deliver, purchase, or bring into this State or provide financial assistance to bring into this State or aid, abet, attempt, or conspire to sell, manufacture, cultivate, deliver, purchase, or bring into this state or actually or constructively possess or attempt to become in actual or constructive possession of four grams or more, but less than fourteen grams of a morphine, opium, salt, isomer, or salt of an isomer thereof, including heroin, as described in Section 44-53-190 or Section 44-53-210 or a mixture containing any of these substances, all in violation of Section 44-53-370(e)(3)(a)(1), et al. of the Codes of Law of South Carolina.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.



Solicitor

TRUE BILL

154 **WITNESSES**

SLED J. Maffett

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

2019A2510200046

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

TRUE BILL

Detra Green

Foreperson of Grand Jury

Date: 3/22/2021

VERDICT

Foreperson of Petit Jury

Date:

INDICT

DOCKET NO. 2019GS2500211

The State of South Carolina

County of Hampton

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

March Term 2021

THE STATE

vs.

Ronald Lee Lyons

Indictment For

Trafficking Methamphetamine, 10 grams or more but less than 28 grams, 1st Offense

SC Code: 44-53-375(C)(1)(a)

CDR Code: 0450

After being fully advised as to my legal rights, I hereby waive presentment to the Grand Jury.

Defendant

I

hereby appear in my own proper person and plead guilty to the within indictment or to

Defendant

Witness:

C.C.C. PLS. and G.S.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF HAMPTON)

INDICTMENT

2019GS2500211

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on March 22, 2021, the Grand Jurors of Hampton County present upon their oath:

Trafficking Methamphetamine, 10 grams or more but less than 28 grams, 1st Offense

That in Hampton County, South Carolina, on or about February 28, 2019, the Defendant, Ronald Lee Lyons, did knowingly sell, manufacture, deliver, purchase, or otherwise bring into this State, or provide financial assistance or otherwise aid, abet, attempt, or conspire to sell, manufacture, deliver, purchase, or bring into this State, or was knowingly in actual or constructive possession of more than ten but less than twenty-eight grams of methamphetamine as defined and otherwise limited in Section 44-53-110, 44-53-210(d)(1) or 44-53-210(d)(2, all in violation of Section 44-53-375(C)(1)(a), et al. of the Codes of Law of South Carolina.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.

Solicitor

TRUE B

156

0-15 yrs; $0-$25,000 fine

STATE RONALD LEE LYONS INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2019GS2500209

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA	**IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS**
COUNTY OF HAMPTON	
STATE VS.	INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2019GS2500209
RONALD LEE LYONS	A/W#: 2019A2510200044
AKA:	Date of Offense: 02/28/2019
Race: White Sex: Male Age: 34	S.C. Code §: 44-53-370(b)(1)
DOB: [redacted] SS#: [redacted]	CDR Code #: 0183
Address: [redacted] Lake City, SC 29560, Florence County	
City, State, Zip:	**SENTENCE SHEET**
DL#* SID#	

*CDL Yes ☐ No ☐ CMV Yes ☐ No ☐ Hazmat Yes ☐ No ☐

In disposition of the above indictment comes now the Defendant who was ☒ CONVICTED OF or ☐ PLEADS

TO: Distribution of Schedule II - Fentanyl - 1st offense

In violation of § 44-53-370(b)(1) of the S.C. Code of Laws, bearing CDR Code # 0183

☒ NON-VIOLENT ☐ VIOLENT ☐ SERIOUS ☐ MOST SERIOUS ☐ Mandatory GPS ☐ § 17-25-45 (CSC w/minor 1st or CSC w/minor 3rd)

The charge is: ☒ As indicted, ☐ Lesser Included Offense, ☐ Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury. _____ (def.'s initials)

The plea is: ☐ Without Negotiations or Recommendation, ☐ Negotiated Sentence, ☒ Recommendation by the State.

ATTEST:

Richard Gnaedi 104074 — Solicitor, SC Bar #

Stephen T. Plemes, Esq. 012014 — Defendant, Attorney for Defendant, SC Bar #

WHEREFORE, the Defendant is committed to the ☒ **State Department of Correction** ☐ **County Detention Center,**

for a determinate term of 15 days/months/years/Time Served ☐ **Youthful Offender Act** not to exceed ____ years

and/or to pay a fine of $_____; provided that upon the service of ____ days/months/years/Time Served and or payment

of $_____; plus costs and assessments as applicable*; the balance is suspended with **probation** for _____

months/years and subject to South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services standard conditions of probation, which are incorporated by reference.

The sentence shall run ☒ CONCURRENT or ☐ CONSECUTIVE to sentence on: 2019GS2500210 | 2019GS2500211

☒ The Defendant is to be given credit for time served pursuant to S.C. Code § 24-13-40 to be calculated and applied by SCDOC 419 days/months

☐ To include time spent on monitored house arrest prior to trial and sentencing.

☐ The Defendant Shall be Released from County Detention Center.

SCCA/217 (07/2021)

FILED Opened in Court FEB - 3 2022 By Judge M. Nettles
MYONDA S. NETTLES
CLERK OF COURT
HAMPTON COUNTY SC

STATE RONALD LEE LYONS INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2019GS2500209

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922 and § 16-25-30 it is unlawful for a person convicted of a violation of § 16-25-20 or § 16-25-65 (Domestic Violence) to ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

☐ **PTUP** after _____ months/years

And Other Terms Listed Below:

☐ Substance Abuse Counseling ☐ Completion of GED ☐ Random Drug/Alcohol Testing

☐ Attend Voc. Rehab. Or Job Corp ☐ No Contact with Victim ☐ Domestic Violence Intervention Program

☐ Mental Health Counseling ☐ May serve W/E beginning: _____

☐ Sex Offender Registry pursuant to S.C. Code § 23-3-430 ☐ Public Service Employment _____ days/hours

☐ Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect pursuant to S.C Code § 17-25-135.

☐ Other: _____

☐ **RESTITUTION:** ☐ **Deferred** ☐ **Def. Waives Hearing** ☐ **Ordered**

Total $_____ plus 20% fee: _____ $_____

Payment Terms: _____ ☐ Set by SCDPPPS

Recipient: _____

*Fine:		$
Fine may be pd. in equal consecutive weekly/monthly pmts. of $ _____ Beginning _____		
§14-1-206 (Assessments 107.5%)		$
§14-1-211 (A)(1)(Conv. Surcharge)	$100	$ 100
§14-1-211 (A)(2)(DUI Surcharge)	$100	$
§56-5-2995 (DUI Assessment)	$12	$
§56-1-286 (DUI Breath Test)	$25	$
§14-1-212 (Law Enforce. Funding)	$25	$ 25
§14-1-213 (Drug Court Surcharge)	$150	$ 150
§34-11-70(b)and(c), and 34-11-90(c)and(d) (Admin Fraud Check Court Costs)	$41	$
§50-21-114 (BUI Breath Test Fee)	$50	$
§56-5-2942(J) (Vehicle Assessment)	$40/ea	$
3% to County (if paid in installments)	TBD	$ 23.25
☑ Appointed PD or appointed other counsel, Proviso requires $500 be paid to Clerk during probation and shall be collected before any other fees	$500	$ 500
☐ § 17-3-30(B) Unpaid Application Fee to be paid to the Public Defender Fund	TBD	$
	TOTAL	$ 798.25

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: Mylinda D. Nettles
Court Reporter: Kymberlee Williams

Presiding Judge: [signature]
Judge Code: 2770
Sentence Date: 11/17/21

FILED
Opened in Court PM
FEB - 3 2022
By Judge M. Nettles
MYLINDA D NETTLES
CLERK OF COURT
HAMPTON COUNTY, SC

SCCA/217 (07/2021)

158

25 yrs; mandatory $50,000

STATE: RONALD LEE LYONS INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2019GS2500210

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF HAMPTON)
)
STATE)
VS.)
)
RONALD LEE LYONS)
AKA:)
Race: White Sex: Male Age: 34)
DOB: [redacted] SS#: [redacted])
Address: [redacted], Lake City, SC 29560, Florence County)
City, State, Zip:)
DL#: SID#)
)

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2019GS2500210

A/W#: 2019A2510200045
Date of Offense: 02/28/2019
S.C. Code §: 44-53-370(e)(3)(a)(1)
CDR Code #: 2361

SENTENCE SHEET

*CDL Yes ☐ No ☐ CMV Yes ☐ No ☐ Hazmat Yes ☐ No ☐

In disposition of the above indictment comes now the Defendant who was ☒ CONVICTED OF or ☐ PLEADS

TO: Trafficking Heroin - 1st offense (more than 4 grams but less than 14 grams)

In violation of § 44-53-370(e)(3)(a)(1) of the S.C. Code of Laws, bearing CDR Code # 2361

☐ NON-VIOLENT ☒ VIOLENT ☒ SERIOUS ☐ MOST SERIOUS ☐ Mandatory GPS ☐ § 17-25-45 (CSC w/minor 1st or CSC w/minor 3rd)

The charge is: ☒ As indicted, ☐ Lesser Included Offense, ☐ Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury. _____ (def.'s initials)

The plea is: ☐ Without Negotiations or Recommendation, ☐ Negotiated Sentence, ☒ Recommendation by the State.

ATTEST:

Richard Gnaski 104674 Ralph T. Plaus, Esq 012014
Solicitor SC Bar # Defendant Attorney for Defendant SC Bar #

WHEREFORE, the Defendant is committed to the ☒ State Department of Correction ☐ County Detention Center,

for a determinate term of 15 days/months/years/Time Served ☐ Youthful Offender Act not to exceed ____ years

and/or to pay a fine of $_____; provided that upon the service of ____ days/months/years/Time Served and or payment

of $_____; plus costs and assessments as applicable*; the balance is suspended with probation for _____

months/years and subject to South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services standard conditions of probation, which are incorporated by reference.

The sentence shall run
☒ CONCURRENT or ☐ CONSECUTIVE to sentence on: 2019 GS 2500211 | 2019 GS 2500209

☒ The Defendant is to be given credit for time served pursuant to S.C. Code § 24-13-40 to be calculated and applied by SCDOC
419 days/months
☐ To include time spent on monitored house arrest prior to trial and sentencing.

☐ The Defendant Shall be Released from County Detention Center.

SCCA/217 (07/2021)

FILED
Opened in Court
FEB - 3 2022
By Judge M. Nettles
MYLINDA D NETTLES
CLERK OF COURT
HAMPTON COUNTY SC

STATE RONALD LEE LYONS INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2019GS2500210

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922 and § 16-25-30 it is unlawful for a person convicted of a violation of § 16-25-20 or § 16-25-65 (Domestic Violence) to ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

☐ **PTUP** after _____ months/years

And Other Terms Listed Below:

☐ Substance Abuse Counseling ☐ Completion of GED ☐ Random Drug/Alcohol Testing

☐ Attend Voc. Rehab. Or Job Corp ☐ No Contact with Victim ☐ Domestic Violence Intervention Program

☐ Mental Health Counseling ☐ May serve W/E beginning: _____

☐ Sex Offender Registry pursuant to S.C. Code § 23-3-430 ☐ Public Service Employment _____ days/hours

☐ Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect pursuant to S.C. Code § 17-25-135.

☐ Other: _____

☐ **RESTITUTION:** ☐ **Deferred** ☐ **Def. Waives Hearing** ☐ **Ordered**

Total $_____ plus 20% fee: _____ $_____

Payment Terms: _____ ☐ Set by SCDPPPS

Recipient: _____

*Fine:		$ 50,000
Fine may be pd. in equal consecutive weekly/monthly pmts. of $ _____ Beginning _____		
§14-1-206 (Assessments 107.5%)		$ 53,750.
§14-1-211 (A)(1)(Conv. Surcharge)	$100	$ 100
§14-1-211 (A)(2)(DUI Surcharge)	$100	$
§56-5-2995 (DUI Assessment)	$12	$
§56-1-286 (DUI Breath Test)	$25	$
§14-1-212 (Law Enforce. Funding)	$25	$ 25
§14-1-213 (Drug Court Surcharge)	$150	$ 150
§34-11-70(b)and(c), and 34-11-90(c)and(d) (Admin Fraud Check Court Costs)	$41	$
§50-21-114 (BUI Breath Test Fee)	$50	$
§56-5-2942(J) (Vehicle Assessment)	$40/ea	$
3% to County (if paid in installments)	TBD	$ ~~8.25~~ 3120.7
☐ Appointed PD or appointed other counsel, Proviso requires $500 be paid to Clerk during probation and shall be collected before any other fees	$500	$
☐ § 17-3-30(B) Unpaid Application Fee to be paid to the Public Defender Fund	TBD	$ 107,145.7
	TOTAL	$ ~~283.25~~

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: Mylinda D Nettles
Court Reporter: Kymberlee Williams

Presiding Judge: Rod Bower
Judge Code: 27702
Sentence Date: 11/17/21

SCCA/217 (07/2021)

FILED
Opened in Court
FEB - 3 2022
By Judge M. Nettles
MYLINDA D NETTLES
CLERK OF COURT
HAMPTON COUNTY SC

160

3-10 yrs; mandatory $25,000

STATE RONALD LEE LYONS INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2019GS2500211

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA) **IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS**

COUNTY OF HAMPTON

STATE VS. RONALD LEE LYONS

INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2019GS2500211

AKA:
Race: White Sex: Male Age: 34
DOB: [redacted] SS#: [redacted]
Address: [redacted], Lake City, SC 29560, Florence County
City, State, Zip:
DL#* SID#

A/W#: 2019A2510200046
Date of Offense: 02/28/2019
S.C. Code §: 44-53-375(C)(1)(a)
CDR Code #: 0450

SENTENCE SHEET

*CDL Yes ☐ No ☐ CMV Yes ☐ No ☐ Hazmat Yes ☐ No ☐

In disposition of the above indictment comes now the Defendant who was ☐ CONVICTED OF or ☐ PLEADS

TO: Trafficking in methamphetamine 10 grams or more but less than 28 grams

In violation of § 44-53-375(C)(1)(a) of the S.C. Code of Laws, bearing CDR Code # 0450

☐ NON-VIOLENT ☒ VIOLENT ☒ SERIOUS ☐ MOST SERIOUS ☐ Mandatory GPS ☐ § 17-25-45 (CSC w/minor 1st or CSC w/minor 3rd)

The charge is: ☒ As indicted, ☐ Lesser Included Offense, ☐ Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury. _____ (def.'s initials)

The plea is: ☐ Without Negotiations or Recommendation, ☐ Negotiated Sentence, ☒ Recommendation by the State.

ATTEST:

Rachel Grandi 104674 — Solicitor, SC Bar #

Defendant

Stephen T. Plevier, Esq. 012014 — Attorney for Defendant, SC Bar #

WHEREFORE, the Defendant is committed to the ☒ **State Department of Correction** ☐ **County Detention Center,**

for a determinate term of 15 days/months/years/Time Served ☐ **Youthful Offender Act** not to exceed ____ years

and/or to pay a fine of $____; provided that upon the service of ____ days/months/years/Time Served and/or payment

of $____; plus costs and assessments as applicable*; the balance is suspended with **probation** for _____

months/years and subject to South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services standard conditions of probation, which are incorporated by reference.

The sentence shall run ☒ CONCURRENT or ☐ CONSECUTIVE to sentence on: 2019 GS 2500210 / 2019 GS 2500209

☒ The Defendant is to be given credit for time served pursuant to S.C. Code § 24-13-40 to be calculated and applied by SCDOC. 419 days/months

☐ To include time spent on monitored house arrest prior to trial and sentencing.

☐ The Defendant Shall be Released from County Detention Center.

SCCA/217 (07/2021)

FILED opened in Court FEB - 3 2022 By Judge M. Nettles
MELINDA D NETTLES
CLERK OF COURT
HAMPTON COUNTY, SC

STATE RONALD LEE LYONS INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2019GS2500211

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922 and § 16-25-30 it is unlawful for a person convicted of a violation of § 16-25-20 or § 16-25-65 (Domestic Violence) to ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

☐ **PTUP** after _____ months/years

And Other Terms Listed Below:

☐ Substance Abuse Counseling ☐ Completion of GED ☐ Random Drug/Alcohol Testing

☐ Attend Voc. Rehab. Or Job Corp ☐ No Contact with Victim ☐ Domestic Violence Intervention Program

☐ Mental Health Counseling ☐ May serve W/E beginning: _____

☐ Sex Offender Registry pursuant to S.C. Code § 23-3-430 ☐ Public Service Employment _____ days/hours

☐ Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect pursuant to S.C. Code § 17-25-135.

☐ Other: _____

☐ **RESTITUTION:** ☐ **Deferred** ☐ **Def. Waives Hearing** ☐ **Ordered**

Total $_____ plus 20% fee: _____ $_____

Payment Terms: _____ ☐ Set by SCDPPPS

Recipient: _____

*Fine:		$ 25,000
Fine may be pd. in equal consecutive weekly/monthly pmts. of $ _____ Beginning _____		
§14-1-206 (Assessments 107.5%)		$ 26,875.
§14-1-211 (A)(1)(Conv. Surcharge)	$100	$ 100
§14-1-211 (A)(2)(DUI Surcharge)	$100	$
§56-5-2995 (DUI Assessment)	$12	$
§56-1-286 (DUI Breath Test)	$25	$
§14-1-212 (Law Enforce. Funding)	$25	$ 25
§14-1-213 (Drug Court Surcharge)	$150	$ 150
§34-11-70(b)and(c), and 34-11-90(c)and(d) (Admin Fraud Check Court Costs)	$41	$
§50-21-114 (BUI Breath Test Fee)	$50	$
§56-5-2942(J) (Vehicle Assessment)	$40/ea	$
3% to County (if paid in installments)	TBD	$ ~~8,25~~ 1500.$
☐ Appointed PD or appointed other counsel, Proviso requires $500 be paid to Clerk during probation and shall be collected before any other fees	$500	$
☐ § 17-3-30(B) Unpaid Application Fee to be paid to the Public Defender Fund	TBD	$ 53,714.50
	TOTAL	$ ~~283,25~~

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: Mylinda D. Nettles
Court Reporter: ~~Kymberlee Williams~~ Sharon Hardon

Presiding Judge: Roy Jones
Judge Code: 2110
Sentence Date: 11/17/21

SCCA/217 (07/2021)

FILED
Opened in Court
FEB - 3 2022
By Judge M. Nettles
MYLINDA D NETTLES
CLERK OF COURT
HAMPTON COUNTY, SC

HITECH RECORDS REQUEST

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

MAIL
PORTAL
FAX

Re: Patient Name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____
Address: _____ SSN: XXX-XX-_____
City: _____ State: ____ ZIP: ____ Phone No.: (____) ____-____

Dear Records Custodian:

I am a patient of _____ and request copies of the following:
Doctor or Facility

MEDICAL RECORDS	RADIOLOGY IMAGING		OTHER
____ Full Chart ____ Abstract	____ X-Rays	____ MRI	____ Itemized Billing Record
____ Fetal Monitoring Strips	____ CT Scans	____ Ultrasound	____ Pathology Slides
____ EMS Run Report	____ Heart/ Cath. Imaging	____ Echoes	____ Pharmacy Records

FROM DATE: _____ TO DATE: _____

Please provide all records in electronic format only using Adobe Acrobat PDF format.

Please send the electronic records to my attorney's office, located at the following address:

McGowan, Hood & Felder, LLC
757 Johnnie Dodds Blvd., Suite 101
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
Phone: 843-268-0251
Attn: Barbara Meiburg, paralegal

Or by email to: bmeiburg@mcgowanhood.com or by Fax to: (843) 388-3194

Pursuant to the HITECH Act, I authorize you and any vendor you use to communicate directly with my attorney or their staff regarding all issues related to this request, including authorization of the flat rate cost of ***$6.50 for electronic format, or if by paper only the cost of $.07 per page plus $.05 per page for copying or scanning and $2.00 fee for shipping and handling,*** to send the records to his/her office within thirty (30) days from the date on the request, whether payment is made or not.

EXPIRATION: This authorization will expire upon the termination of the representation by McGowan Hood & Felder, LLC.

Date: _____ X Signature: _____

Relationship to Patient: _____

*By my signature, and pursuant to 45 C.F.R. Sections 164.502, 164.508 and 164.524 of the **HITECH Act**, in this **PERSONAL WRITTEN REQUEST FOR PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION ("PHI")**, I, the patient of a Covered Entity ("CE"), am specifically and personally requesting access to and a copy of any and all of my Protected Health Information, including, but not limited to, medical records, electronic medical records, audit logs, audit trails, radiological films, laboratory and pathology reports, billing statements or reports, email, electronic correspondence (whether within the healthcare provider's electronic medical record system or otherwise), phone messages, records/correspondence from outside providers, etc., be provided to me. **The HITECH Act** provides that I have the right to direct any of my health care providers (hereinafter "Covered Entity" or "CE") to transmit an electronic copy of my **Protected Health Information** directly to an entity or person designated by me, provided such choice is clear, conspicuous, and specific. Therefore, I am requesting that a copy of my Protected Health Information be provided to McGowan, Hood, and Felder, LLC – a law firm.*

Further, I acknowledge that the released information may contain alcohol and/or drug abuse, psychiatric, HIV testing, HIV results, AIDS information, or other patient information deemed sensitive and hereby consent to the release of said information.

Patient Access Request

INSTRUCTIONS: Pursuant to HITECH Act, 42 USC § 17935(e) and as enforced by HIPAA, 45 CFR § 164.524(c)(4)(i), I hereby request an **electronic** copy of my PHI be released **in compliance with HIPAA fee limitations,** as instructed below:

REQUESTER/PATIENT INFORMATION:		
Reference Number:		(Patient Full Name)
(Patient D.O.B.)	(Last 4 of SSN#)	(Patient full address)
AKA or Maiden Name:		
RELEASE FROM:		
	(Full name and address of medical provider)	

DISCLOSURE IS TO BE MADE TO THE FOLLOWING RECIPIENT IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT:

RELEASE TO:	ChartSquad
Email	FaxBox1@ChartSquad.com
Fax	(866) 282-0568
Phone	(866) 209-9379
Secure Upload	https://chartsquad.com/chartdrop/

CHARGES: As your patient, I am directing the release of PHI to a third party as is my right. If you charge your patients for copies of their own records, please include an invoice with the records you deliver to ChartSquad. Charging **clerical, search, or per page fees** is a violation of HIPAA and HITECH that may be reported.

RECORDS REQUESTED: I request access to the following information:

___ My ENTIRE Designated Record Set: ___ An Abstract, defined below:

___ For treatment between the dates: _____ - _____ to include:

_____ Progress Notes _____ EMS Pre-Hospital Care Report

_____ Diagnostic Test Results _____ Radiology Films/Digital Images

_____ Dictated Reports _____ Billing Records (Complete Patient Ledger)

Patient Access Request

ATTENTION: This is a direct access request for the release of my health information. You may NOT require me to complete and sign an authorization, and you MUST accept this access request in compliance with HIPAA and HITECH.

I hereby direct any and all treatment providers who receive this access request to deliver records as instructed.

You are receiving this access request from a third party, ChartSquad, sent on my behalf and at my specific direction. I have engaged ChartSquad to assist me in the collection of all my health treatment and billing records so that I may have persistent access to them in electronic format, and share them with any party I choose, as is my right under federal law.

I am fully aware of my rights under HIPAA and HITECH which explain how you are required to accept and comply with this access request. Please refer to the direct guidance of the Office for Civil Rights below:

"We note that a covered entity (or a business associate) ***may not circumvent the access fee limitations by treating individual requests for access like other HIPAA disclosures – such as by having an individual fill out a HIPAA authorization*** *when the individual requests access to her PHI (including to direct a copy of the PHI to a third party). As explained elsewhere in the guidance, a HIPAA authorization is not required for individuals to request access to their PHI, including to direct a copy to a third party – and because a HIPAA authorization requests more information than is necessary or that may not be relevant for individuals to exercise their access rights, requiring execution of a HIPAA authorization may create impermissible obstacles to the exercise of this right."*

You may read the full guidance here:

https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/privacy/guidance/access/index.html

Patient Name (please print)	**Relationship to Patient**
x	
Signature of Patient or Personal Representative	**Date**

Gmail

Barbara Lyons <bjlyons1966@gmail.com>

HIPAA forms for Ronald

3 messages

Kim Forbes <kforbes@elliottphelanlaw.com> Fri, Aug 16, 2019 at 12:13 PM
To: "bjlyons1966@gmail.com" <bjlyons1966@gmail.com>
Cc: Andrew Kunz <Andrew@elliottphelanlaw.com>

Joanne,

So nice to speak to you and thank you for all of your assistance with your son's matter. We understand that due to the circumstances and your living 2 hours from MUSC may make it difficult for you to get the forms attached to him. If, however, there is a chance that you or your daughter, Samantha, are able to see him at any point, please have him sign his name at the bottom of both forms. You can fill in the top for him with his full name, date of birth and social security number. You can scan and email or mail them back to us.

We look forward to hearing from you when there are updates of his condition and location. We are praying for his recovery as well.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our firm at the number below.

Kindest regards,

Kim Forbes, Legal Assistant

Elliott & Phelan, LLC

PO Box 1405

117 ½ - 119 ½ Screven Street

Georgetown, SC 29442

(843) 546-0650

(843) 546-1920 fax

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE MAY BE ATTORNEY PRIVILEGED AND CONTAIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE ENTITY NAMED ABOVE. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT OR THE EMPLOYEE OR AGENT RESPONSIBLE TO DELIVER IT TO THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION, OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU RECEIVED THIS TRANSMISSION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY US BY TELEPHONE, AND DELETE THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE. THANK YOU.

Discharge Summary by Helen L Dainton-Howard, MD at 8/19/2019 9:32 AM (continued)

I, Seth Stalcup, MD, have reviewed the study and agree with the findings in this report. 8/18/2019 10:13 AM

Hospital Course

#Left sigmoid sinus thrombosis
Pt presented initially on 08/16 after he was in an altercation at jail and sustained a head injury w occipital fx after falling onto a concrete floor. Was found to have sinus thrombosis likely 2/2 trauma. Heparin was started but given high risk of bleeding again, along with the likelihood that it was provoked, the heparin was stopped and outpt anticoagulation therapy was not initiated.

#SDH
Pt was also found to have subdural hemorrhage on imaging. Was started initially on keppra for 1 week prophylaxis, then was switched to depakote as this may be less likely to provoke irritation. Given low side effect profile and short administration period, keppra was continued to finish the course as an outpt. Per NSGY pt does not require CT followup or NSGY followup.

#Agitaiton/combactivness
Pt is frequently agitated/frankly disrespectful towards others. Per jail staff he is like this at baseline, maybe slightly worse after head injury, but not new behavior. Required precedex drip and PRN haldol for behavior while inpatient.

#Urine retention
When pt was unable to ambulate, he was having problems w urinary retention and was requiring I/O catheterization. Will likely resolve as he is able to ambulate again.

Discharge Diagnoses

Active Problems:
Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis
Closed fracture of left side of occipital bone

Discharge Medications

Home Medication Instructions

Lyons, Ronald
HAR:523061459
Printed on:08/19/19 0933

Medication Information								
levETIRAcetam (KEPPRA) 1,000 mg tablet **Take 1 tablet by mouth 2 times daily for 5 days. Do not crush, break, split or chew.**								

Disposition

Home or Self Care/Prison

Condition on Discharge

Stable

MEDICAL RECORDS
169 Ashley Ave Suite H102
MSC 250
Charleston SC 29425-3490

Lyons, Ronald
MRN: [redacted], DOB: [redacted], Sex: M
Acct #: [redacted]
Adm: 8/14/2019, D/C: 8/16/2019

Imaging Information (continued)

Study Result (continued)

Linear nondisplaced fracture of the left occipital bone with multiple inferior right frontal lobe contusions (with largest hematoma measuring 1.1 cm), with small amount of subarachnoid blood products. Findings appear stable compared to same day outside head CT.

Dictated by: John Hohenberger, MD. 8/14/2019 10:32 PM

I, Milad Yazdani, MD, have reviewed the study and agree with the findings in this report. 8/15/2019 8:35 AM

Linked Documents

View Image

Questionnaire

Order Entry

Question	Answer	Comment
1. Reason for exam:	SDH, SAH on OSH read	
2. Please indicate relevant clinical history.	assault to head	
3. What is the patient's sedation requirement?	None	
4. Patient Date of Birth	3/16/1984	

End Exam

IMAGING END ALL

Question	Answer	Comment
1. Confirm Resource:	ERCT1 [2000458]	
2. Who verified the patient's identity and procedural site?		

CSN
1128929594

Results

CT Trauma Ang Neck With Contrast (Accession 13375326) (Order 169556626)

Imaging Information

Exam Information

Performed Procedure	Study Status	Begin Time	End Time
CT Trauma Neck With Contrast	Final	Wed Aug 14, 2019 9:12 PM	Wed Aug 14, 2019 9:57 PM

Staff Information

Technologist	Transcriptionist	Assigned Physician(s)	Assigned Pool(s)
Joseph Wik	N/A	N/A	N/A

Imaging Information (continued)

Study Result (continued)

I, Milad Yazdani, MD, have reviewed the study and agree with the findings in this report. 8/15/2019 8:30 AM

Linked Documents

View Image

Questionnaire

Order Entry

Question	Answer	Comment
1. Reason for exam:	assault to head	
2. Please indicate relevant clinical history.	assault	
3. What is the patient's sedation requirement?	None	
4. Patient Date of Birth	3/16/1984	

End Exam

IMAGING END ALL

Question	Answer	Comment
1. Confirm Resource:	ERCT1 [2000458]	
2. Who verified the patient's identity and procedural site?		

CSN
1128929594

Results

CT Chest Abdomen Pelvis W Contrast (Accession 13375327) (Order 169558627)

Imaging Information

Exam Information

Performed Procedure	Study Status	Begin Time	End Time
CT Chest Abd/Pel W Cont(Peds/Trauma Only)	Final	Wed Aug 14, 2019 9:12 PM	Wed Aug 14, 2019 9:58 PM

Staff Information

Technologist	Transcriptionist	Assigned Physician(s)	Assigned Pool(s)
Joseph Wik	N/A	N/A	N/A

Verification Information

Signed By	Signed On
Stephen I Schabel, MD	Aug 15, 2019

Study Result

EXAMINATION: CT TRAUMA CHEST / ABDOMEN / PELVIS WITH CONTRAST 8/14/2019 9:59 PM

ACCESSION NUMBER: 13375327

MUSC Health
Medical University of South Carolina

MEDICAL RECORDS
169 Ashley Ave Suite H102
MSC 250
Charleston SC 29425-3490

Lyons, Ronald
MRN: [redacted], DOB: [redacted], Sex: M
Acct #: [redacted]
Adm: 8/17/2019, D/C: 8/19/2019

Imaging Information (continued)

Study Result (continued)

Dictated by: John Hohenberger, MD. 8/17/2019 9:21 PM

I, Seth Stalcup, MD, have reviewed the study and agree with the findings in this report. 8/18/2019 10:13 AM

Linked Documents

View Image

Questionnaire

Order Entry

Question	Answer	Comment
1. Reason for exam:	ICH stability	
2. Please indicate relevant clinical history.	ICH stability	
3. What is the patient's sedation requirement?	Sedation	
4. Patient Date of Birth	3/16/1984	

End Exam

IMAGING END ALL

Question	Answer	Comment
1. Confirm Resource:	MCT3 [2000500]	
2. Who verified the patient's identity and procedural site?		

END OF REPORT

J. Al Cannon, Jr. Esq.
Sheriff, Charleston County

Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center
3841 Leeds Avenue
North Charleston, SC 29405-7482

SHERIFF AL CANNON DETENTION CENTER

INMATE REQUEST FOR MARRIAGE

INMATE NAME: _____
Last First Middle

SSN _____ DOB _____ Booking Number _____

☐ Pre-Trial ☐ Sentenced Release Date_____

CHARGES: _____

_____

NAME OF PROSPECTIVE SPOUSE: _____
Last First Middle

ADDRESS: _____
Street City State Zip

I understand that the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center will not grant conjugal visiting or other special privileges should the marriage be approved.

DATE: _____ _____
Signature of Inmate

_____ _____
Accepting Officer Signature/Date Legal Liaison Signature/Date

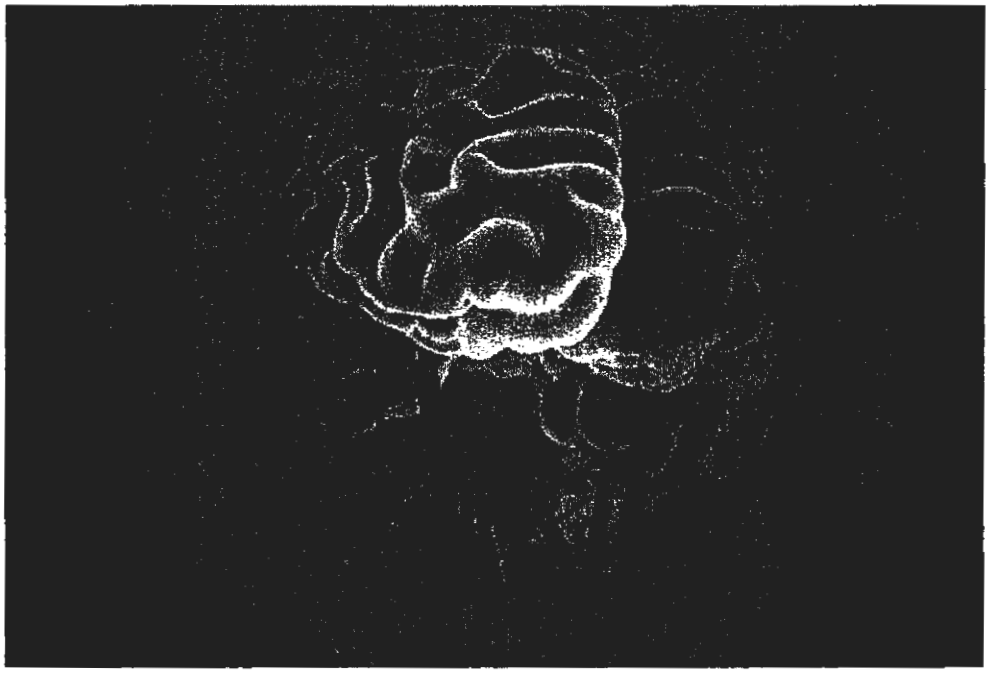
---

☐ Approved ☐ Denied _____
Reviewing Official Signature/Date

Copy of completed request returned to inmate, by _____ Date _____

Intracerebral **hemorrhage** (ICH) is caused by **bleeding** within the **brain** tissue itself — a life-threatening type of stroke. A stroke occurs when the **brain** is deprived of oxygen and **blood** supply. ... Treatment focuses on stopping the **bleeding**, removing the **blood clot** (hematoma), and relieving the pressure on the **brain**.

What is a brain hemorrhage?



A brain hemorrhage is a type of stroke.

A brain hemorrhage is bleeding in or around the brain. It is a form of stroke. Causes of brain hemorrhage include high blood pressure (hypertension), abnormally weak or dilated (aneurysm) blood vessels that leak, drug abuse, and trauma. Many people who experience a brain hemorrhage have symptoms as though they are having a stroke, and can develop weakness on one side of their body, difficulty speaking, or a sense of numbness. Difficulty performing usual activities, including problems with walking or even falling, are not uncommon symptoms. About 13% of all strokes are hemorrhagic strokes, or caused by bleeding into the brain.

Brain hemorrhage is often labeled according to precisely where it occurs in the brain. In general, bleeding anywhere inside of the skull is called an intracranial hemorrhage. Bleeding within the brain itself is known as an intracerebral hemorrhage. Bleeding can also occur between the covering of the brain and the brain tissue itself, referred to as a subarachnoid hemorrhage. If a blood clot occurs between the skull and the brain, it is known as either a subdural or epidural hematoma depending on whether it is below or above the tough covering (dura) of the brain. Subdural and epidural hematomas are more likely to occur as a result of a traumatic brain injury or after a fall and will not be addressed in detail here.

It is important to recognize that when bleeding occurs within the brain itself, headache may not occur, as our brains don't have the ability to sense the ongoing disturbance. However, the

Subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH) refers to **bleeding** into the space between the pia and the arachnoid membranes. ... A **subdural hematoma** (Figure 3) is due to **bleeding** between the dura and the arachnoid, whereas an epidural **hematoma** involves **bleeding** between the dura and the bone.

Discharge Summary by Helen L Dainton-Howard, MD at 8/19/2019 9:32 AM (continued)

Impression
IMPRESSION:

Filling defect in the distal left sigmoid sinus and jugular bulb adjacent to the left occipital bone fracture, likely due to venous injury/thrombosis.

Stable appearance of inferior right frontal lobe contusions and small amount of subarachnoid blood products.

Left occipital bone fracture is redemonstrated.

Dictated by: John Hohenberger, MD. 8/15/2019 10:26 PM

I, Maria Matheus, MD, have reviewed the study and agree with the findings in this report. 8/16/2019 10:04 AM

CT Head Wo Contrast

Narrative
EXAMINATION: CT HEAD WO CONTRAST 8/17/2019 9:13 PM

ACCESSION NUMBER: 13380926

INDICATION: Altered level of consciousness (LOC), unexplained, ICH stability

COMPARISON: CT 8/14/2019 and CT venogram 8/15/19

TECHNIQUE: Thinly collimated spiral CT images of the brain without contrast with axial, coronal and sagittal reformations.

FINDINGS:

Evolving contusions in the inferior right frontal and anterior right temporal lobes, with slightly increased surrounding edema. Small amount of subarachnoid blood products. No midline shift. The basal cisterns are patent.

The ventricles are stable in size.

Stable nondisplaced left occipital bone fracture.

Partial opacification of sphenoid sinuses. The visualized orbits are unremarkable.

Impression
IMPRESSION:

Evolving inferior right frontal and anterior right temporal lobe contusions with slightly increased surrounding edema. No midline shift.

Dictated by: John Hohenberger, MD. 8/17/2019 9:21 PM

MEDICAL RECORDS
169 Ashley Ave Suite H102
MSC 250
Charleston SC 29425-3490

Lyons, Ronald
MRN: [redacted], DOB: [redacted], Sex: M
Acct #: [redacted]
Adm: 8/14/2019, D/C: 8/16/2019

CSN
1128929594

Results

CT HEAD WO CONTRAST (Accession 13375325) (Order 169558625)

Imaging Information

Exam Information

Performed Procedure	Study Status	Begin Time	End Time
CT Head Wo Contrast	Final	Wed Aug 14, 2019 9:12 PM	Wed Aug 14, 2019 9:57 PM

Staff Information

Technologist	Transcriptionist	Assigned Physician(s)	Assigned Pool(s)
Joseph Wik	N/A	N/A	N/A

Verification Information

Signed By	Signed On
Milad Yazdani, MD	Aug 15, 2019

Study Result

EXAMINATION: CT HEAD WO CONTRAST 8/14/2019 9:57 PM

ACCESSION NUMBER: 13375325

INDICATION: assault to head Head trauma, minor, GCS>=13, high clinical risk, initial exam, SDH, SAH on OSH read

COMPARISON: Same-day outside head CT

TECHNIQUE: Thinly collimated spiral CT images of the brain without contrast with axial, coronal and sagittal reformations.

FINDINGS:

Multiple contusions with surrounding edema in the inferior right frontal lobe, with largest hematoma measuring 1.1 cm (series 2, image 20). In addition, there is small amount of subarachnoid blood products. The basal cisterns are patent. No midline shift.

The ventricles are normal in size.

The density of the dural venous sinuses is normal.

Linear nondisplaced fracture of the left occipital bone extending medial to the mastoid portion of the left temporal bone, with overlying subgaleal hematoma

Partial opacification of sphenoid sinuses. The visualized orbits are unremarkable.

IMPRESSION:

Name: LYONS,RONALD L

Unit No: H000056569

EXAM#	TYPE/EXAM	RESULT
000314293	CT/CT HEAD W/O IV CONTRAST	
000314294	CT/CT C-SPINE W/O IV CONT.	
000314295	CT/CT FACIAL/SINUS W/O CONTRAST	

Ronald Lyons
56569
8/14/2019

CT scan of the brain, cervical spine, and facial bones

History: 35-year-old male with assault.

Technique: CT scan brain was performed without contrast utilizing 3 mm axial images with sagittal reconstructions.

CT scan cervical spine was performed with 2 mm axial images, followed by sagittal and coronal reconstructions. CT scan facial bones was performed with 3 mm axial images followed by sagittal and coronal reconstructions.

No previous exams to compare.

CT SCAN BRAIN: Subtle hyperdense extra-axial fluid density overlies the right frontal, parietal, and temporal lobe. This is consistent with a subtle subdural hematoma. No positive mass effect or midline shift. Subtle subarachnoid component also overlies the frontal lobes. Ventricles, cisterns, and sulci are normal. No suspicious extra-axial fluid collections. Near opacification of the left sphenoid sinus with moderate mucosal thickening of the right sphenoid sinus. Ethmoid, frontal, and visualized maxillary sinuses are essentially clear as are the mastoid air cells.

Impression:
1. Subtle subdural hematoma overlies right frontal/parietal, and temporal lobe, up to 3 mm in thickness, but no mass effect or midline shift. Subtle subarachnoid hemorrhage also overlies the frontal lobes. No other acute intracranial bleed.

2. Partial opacification of the sphenoid sinuses, more on the left, could be related to acute blood or to preexisting sinus disease.

CT SCAN CERVICAL SPINE: No acute fracture. No suspicious skeletal lesion. There is straightening of the cervical spine which could be related to positioning or due to muscular spasm. Spondylosis with moderate spurring of the lower cervical spine, greatest at the posterior opposing endplates C6-C7 and C7-T1. Moderate narrowing of

Name: LYONS,RONALD L
Phys: Bianco MD,Joseph R.
DOB: [redacted] Age: 35 Sex: M
Acct No: [redacted] Loc: ER
Exam Date: 08/14/2019 Status: DEP ER
Radiology No:

coverings of the brain (meninges) are extremely sensitive and if bleeding occurs there, as when an aneurysm ruptures, a sudden and severe headache is a common stroke symptom.

Brain Hemorrhage Symptoms & Signs

The Worst Headache of Your Life

"Doctor, I have the worst headache of my life." Those words send up a warning when a doctor walks into a room to see the patient. The textbooks say that this symptom is one of the clues that the patient may be suffering from a subarachnoid hemorrhage (brain hemorrhage) from a leaking cerebral aneurysm. These words don't mean that a disaster is waiting to happen, but the red flag is waving. If those words are associated with a patient who is lying very still, complaining of a stiff neck, and has difficulty tolerating the lights in the room, this makes the suspicions rise even higher. Add vomiting and confusion as associated symptoms, and the sirens are going off in the doctor's head. Something bad is happening and time is critical.

What are symptoms and signs of a brain hemorrhage?

- Readers Comments 34
- Share Your Story

Although headache is frequently associated with bleeding in the brain, it is not always present. Most often, the symptoms associated with a brain hemorrhage are dependent on the particular area of the brain that is involved. If the bleeding is in the part of the brain associated with vision, there may be problems seeing. Problems with balance and coordination, weakness on one side, numbness, or sudden seizure may occur. The speech center for many people is located in the left side of the brain and bleeding into this area may cause marked speech disturbances. If the bleeding is in the lower brain (brainstem), where most of the automatic body functions are regulated, a patient may become unresponsive or go into a coma. Additionally, sometimes symptoms of brain hemorrhage may come on very abruptly and rapidly worsen. Alternatively, the symptoms may progress slowly over many hours or even days.

There are four types of ICH:

- epidural **hematoma**.
- subdural **hematoma**.
- subarachnoid **hemorrhage**.
- intracerebral **hemorrhage**

Emergency Room
PATIENT REGISTRATION FORM
Hampton Regional Medical Center
595 Carolina Avenue West PO BOX 338
Varnville, SC 29944
Telephone: (803) 943-2771

MED REC#: H000056569 ADMIT DATE: 08/14/19 TIME: 1504 ACCT NO.: [redacted]
SERV/LOC: ER ROOM & BED: ACCOM: FIN CLASS: OT
PT STATUS: DEP ER ADMIT SOURCE: EMERGENCY ROOM ADM CLERK: REG LMG

*** PATIENT INFORMATION ***

PATIENT: LYONS,RONALD L BIRTHDATE: [redacted] AGE: 35 SEX: M
ADDRESS: [redacted] MARITAL ST: SINGLE SS#: [redacted]
VARNVILLE,SC 29944 RELIGION: CHRISTIAN RACE: WHITE/CAUC
PHONE #: [redacted] MDN NAME:

*** PHYSICIAN INFORMATION ***

PRIMARY CARE PHYS: NONE ER PHYSICIAN: Bianco MD,Joseph R.
ADMIT PHYSICIAN: OTHER PHYSICIANS:
ATTENDING PHYS:

*** EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION ***

EMPLOYER: UNEMPLOYED OCCUPATION:
ADDRESS: EMP PHONE #:

*** CONTACT INFORMATION ***

NEXT OF KIN: LYONS,JOANNE PERSON TO NOTIFY: LYONS,JOANNE
NOK ADDRESS: [redacted] PERSON NOTIFY ADD: [redacted]
VARNVILLE,SC 29944 VARNVILLE,SC 29944
NOK PHONE #: [redacted] PERSON NOTIFY PH#: [redacted]

*** GUARANTOR INFORMATION ***

GUARANTOR NAME: LYONS,RONALD L GUAR EMPLOYER: UNEMPLOYED
GUAR ADDRESS: [redacted] GUAR EMP PH #:
VARNVILLE,SC 29944 RELATIONSHIP: SELF
GUAR PHONE NO: [redacted] GUARANTOR SS#: [redacted]

	INSURANCE	POLICY #	COV #	SUBSCRIBER
1	199 HAMPTON COUNTY D [redacted] VARNVILLE,SC 29944	260593431		LYONS,RONALD L
2				
3				
4				

Reason for Visit: SEIZURE

8 MEDICAL RECORDS COPY

HAMPTON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
595 CAROLINA AVE, WEST
PO BOX 338
VARNVILLE, SC 29944
(803) 943-2771

EMERGENCY ROOM PHYSICIAN NOTE

Patient: LYONS,RONALD L
#: [redacted]
ER Visit Date: 08/14/19
H000056569
ER Physician: Bianco MD,Joseph R.

Account
Unit #:

History of Present Illness

General

Chief Complaint Head Injury
Stated Complaint SEIZURE ← I had a seizure so please tell me how I'm being housed upstairs? I get dizzy when I climb. My brain isn't the same, I don't feel safe climbing. I feel like I'm gonna fall down. I believe I'm losing my balance!
Time seen by MD: 1516
Source patient, police, EMS
Exam Limitations clinical condition

History of Present Illness

Initial Comments
Patient was supposedly assaulted in jail. He was punched in the face multiple times fell back hit his head and had a seizure. He presents here complaining of facial pain and posterior head pain. We are unsure if there was any loss of consciousness.
Occurred just prior to arrival
Severity moderate
Location frontal, occipital
Method of Injury assault, fell
Pain/Injuries
Facial and posterior scalp
Loss of Consciousness unsure
Associated Symptoms headaches
Allergies
Coded Allergies:
No Known Drug Allergies (08/14/19)
nickel (08/14/19)

Past History

Medical History GUNSHOT WOUND
Surgical History ABDOMEN
Psychosocial History no pertinent psych hx
Family History
Relation not specified for:
No pertinent family history

Tobacco History
Smoking Status: Current Everyday Smoker
Smoked the past 12mths? Yes
Smoking amount <1 pack per day
Dip/Chew Tobacco No

Alcohol History
Drink Alcohol No
Number Alcohol Drinks / day Occasional
Number of years + 10 years

Drug History
Drugs Marijuana
Amount of drugs abused Heavy

Other Social History
Pt. Lives with With Roommate
TB EXPOSURE: No
Domestic Violence Negative

HIPPA PT Representative
HIPPA
SC Legislature 44-66-78 requires health care providers to provide the patient an opportunity to designate a family member or other individual choosen by the patient, the rights to DISCUSS the patients medical condition and treatment plan. This is DISCUSSION only with the designated person ONLY!!!
The following is whom the patient has designated during the registration progess as their designated representative: LYONS,JOANNE
Designated relationship: MOTHER

The patient may revoke or modify this authorization in regard to the individual designated by this authorization. The revocation or modification MUST BE in WRITING and must be scanned into the patients chart.

Review of Systems
ROS..Other
Unable to obtain the patient is uncooperative

Physical Exam

Vital Signs
Vital Signs

Vital Signs

Date Time	Temp	Pulse	Resp	B/P	B/P Mean	Pulse Ox	O2 Delivery	O2 Flow Rate	FiO2
08/14 1629	97.8	87	17	132/70		100			

08/14 1457	97.7	64	18	126/79		99			
08/14 1452	97.7	64	18	126/79		99			

Physical Exam

General Appearance mild distress, somewhat combative
Head laceration in the posterior occipital area
Eyes
bilateral eye PERRL, bilateral eye EOMI
Ears, Nose, Throat, Mouth hearing grossly normal
Neck supple, full range of motion
Back no CVA tenderness, no vertebral tenderness
Extremities normal range of motion
Psychiatric alert, oriented x 3
Motor/Sensory no motor deficit, no sensory deficit
Skin warm/dry
Lymphatic no adenopathy

Progress

Results/Orders

Results/Orders

Laboratory Tests

Test	Result	Date Time	Range
Chemistry			
Sodium	139	08/14 1506	135 - 145 mmol/L
Potassium	3.2 L	08/14 1506	3.6 - 5.1 mmol/L
Chloride	99.1	08/14 1506	98 - 108 mmol/l
Carbon Dioxide	24	08/14 1506	22 - 32 mmol/L
Anion Gap	16.0	08/14 1506	5.0 - 16.0
BUN	13	08/14 1506	8 - 26 mg/dL
Creatinine	0.90	08/14 1506	0.76 - 1.27 mg/dL
GFR Calculation	> 60.00	08/14 1506	
BUN/Creatinine Ratio	14.0	08/14 1506	
Glucose	128 H	08/14 1506	70 - 115 mg/dL
Total Calcium	9.1	08/14 1506	8.5 - 10.3 mg/dL
Phosphorus	2.9	08/14 1505	2.5 - 4.6 mg/dL
Magnesium	1.9	08/14 1505	1.6 - 2.3 mg/dL
Total Bilirubin	0.4	08/14 1506	0.3 - 1.2 mg/dL
AST	16	08/14 1506	15 - 41 IU/L
ALT	16 L	08/14 1506	17 - 63 IU/L
Alkaline Phosphatase	48	08/14 1506	40 - 129 IU/L
Total Protein	6.7	08/14 1506	6.3 - 8.1 g/dL
Albumin	4.2	08/14 1506	3.5 - 5.2 g/dL
Albumin/Globulin Ratio	2.0 H	08/14 1506	1.1 - 1.9
Hematology			
WBC	Cancelled	08/14 1515	
RBC	Cancelled	08/14 1515	

RUN DATE: 08/20/19
RUN TIME: 0000
RUN USER: LAB.SBP

Hampton Regional Medical Ctr LAB *LIVE*
Summary Discharge Report

LOCATION

PATIENT: [redacted] ACCT #: [redacted] LOC: ER U #: H000056569
AGE/SX: 35/M ROOM: REG: 08/14/19
REG DR: Bianco MD,Joseph R. STATUS: DEP ER BED: DIS:

HEMATOLOGY

Date	08/14/19						
Time	1506					Reference	Units
WBC	10.7					(4.5-11.0)	X10-3/
RBC	4.4	L				(4.7-6.1)	X10-6/
HGB	12.9	L				(14.0-18.0)	g/dL
HCT	38.4	L				(42.0-52.0)	%
MCV	87.5	H				(75.0-85.0)	fl
MCH	29.5	H				(24.0-28.0)	pg
MCHC	33.7					(31.5-35.5)	g/dL
RDW	14.5					(11.5-14.5)	%
PLATELET COUNT	236					(140-440)	X10-3/
MPV	8.7					(7.4-10.4)	fl
NE%	34.1	L				(50.0-75.0)	%
LYMPH %	54.6	H				(20.0-45.0)	%
MONO %	7.0					(0.0-10.0)	%
EOS %	3.5	H				(0.0-3.0)	%
BASO %	0.8					(0.0-2.0)	%
NE#	3.6					(2.4-8.1)	
LYMPH #	5.8	H				(1.0-4.9)	
MONO #	0.7					(0.0-1.1)	
EOS #	0.4					(0.0-0.5)	
BASO #	0.1					(0.0-0.1)	K/mm3

Test	Day	Date	Time	Result		Reference	Units
HIV 1/2 ABY	1	AUG 14	1737	(a)		(NONREACTIVE)	
HIV-1 p24 AG	1	AUG 14	1737	(b)		(NONREACTIVE)	
GLUCOSE,SERUM	1	AUG 14	1506	128	H	(70-115)	mg/dL
BUN,SERUM	1	AUG 14	1506	13		(8-26)	mg/dL
CREATININE,(S)	1	AUG 14	1506	0.90		(0.76-1.27)	mg/dL
BUN/CREAT RATIO	1	AUG 14	1506	14.0			
SODIUM,SERUM	1	AUG 14	1506	139		(135-145)	mmol/L
POTASSIUM,SERUM	1	AUG 14	1506	3.2	L	(3.6-5.1)	mmol/L
CHLORIDE,SERUM	1	AUG 14	1506	99.1		(98-108)	mmol/L
CO2	1	AUG 14	1506	24		(22-32)	mmol/L
ANION GAP	1	AUG 14	1506	16.0		(5.0-16.0)	
CALCIUM,SERUM	1	AUG 14	1506	9.1		(8.5-10.3)	mg/dL
PHOS	1	AUG 14	1505	2.9		(2.5-4.6)	mg/dL

NOTES: (a) NONREACTIVE
(b) NONREACTIVE

RUN DATE: 08/20/19
RUN TIME: 0000
RUN USER: LAB SBP

Hampton Regional Medical Ctr LAB *LIVE*
Summary Discharge Report

LOCATION

Patient: LYONS,RONALD L #[redacted] (Continued)

Test	Day	Date	Time	Result	Reference	Units
MAGNESIUM	1	AUG 14	1505	1.9	(1.6-2.3)	mg/dL
GFR,ESTIMATED	1	AUG 14	1506	> 60.00(c)		
TOTAL PROTEIN	1	AUG 14	1506	6.7	(6.3-8.1)	g/dL
ALBUMIN	1	AUG 14	1506	4.2	(3.5-5.2)	g/dL
ALB/GLOB RATIO	1	AUG 14	1506	2.0 H	(1.1-1.9)	
BILIRUBIN,TOTAL	1	AUG 14	1506	0.4	(0.3-1.2)	mg/dL
SGOT/AST	1	AUG 14	1506	16	(15-41)	IU/L
SGPT/ALT	1	AUG 14	1506	16 L	(17-63)	IU/L
ALK PHOS	1	AUG 14	1506	48	(40-129)	IU/L
=> RPR	1	AUG 14	1741	(d)	(Non Reactive)	
=> HBSAG SCREEN	1	AUG 14	1741	Negative	(Negative)	
=> HEP BC AB, IGM	1	AUG 14	1741	Negative	(Negative)	
=> HEP A AB, IGM	1	AUG 14	1741	Negative	(Negative)	
=> HCV ANTIBODY	1	AUG 14	1741	<0.1(e)	(0.0-0.9)	
=> HIV 1/O/2 AB QL	1	AUG 14	1741	(f)	(Non Reactive)	

NOTES: (c) *The eGFR result is based on the patient's age, race, gender, & serum creatinine.
*Given result is NOT adjusted for patient's Body Surface Area.
*Valid only for adults over the age of 18
*eGFR units of measure are mL/min/1.73m2
*Values <60 mL/min/1.73m2 for 3 or more months is defined as chronic kidney disease (CKD).

(d) Non Reactive
Performed at: BN - LabCorp Burlington
1447 York Court, Burlington, NC 272153361
Lab Director: Sanjai Nagendra MD, Phone: 8007624344

(e) INFCE Result Units: s/co ratio

Negative:	< 0.8
Indeterminate:	0.8 - 0.9
Positive:	> 0.9

The CDC recommends that a positive HCV antibody result be followed up with a HCV Nucleic Acid Amplification test (550713).
Performed at: BN - LabCorp Burlington
1447 York Court, Burlington, NC 272153361
Lab Director: Sanjai Nagendra MD, Phone: 8007624344

(f) Non Reactive
Performed at: BN - LabCorp Burlington
1447 York Court, Burlington, NC 272153361
Lab Director: Sanjai Nagendra MD, Phone: 8007624344

Patient: LYONS,RONALD L Age/Sex: 35/M Acct#[redacted] Unit#H000056569

Name: LYONS,RONALD L

Unit No: H000056569

EXAM#	TYPE/EXAM	RESULT
000314293	CT/CT HEAD W/O IV CONTRAST	
000314294	CT/CT C-SPINE W/O IV CONT.	
000314295	CT/CT FACIAL/SINUS W/O CONTRAST	

the C6-C7 and C7-T1 discs. Elsewhere, there is mild posterior bony spurring to the right of midline at C3-C4, and trace bony spurring to the right of midline C4-C5 and C5-C6. Considerable bony foraminal encroachment on the right C3-C4, on the left C5-C6, and on the right at C6-C7. Mild reduction of the caliber of the spinal canal at C6-C7, more on the right, but no spinal stenosis. Bulging discs are noted C3-C4 and greater at C4-C5.

The paravertebral soft tissues are unremarkable. Thyroid unremarkable. Upper lung zones and apices are essentially clear.

Impression:
1. No acute fracture of the cervical spine.

2. Spondylosis of the cervical spine as detailed above with degenerative disc disease, greatest at C6-C7 and C7-T1. Bulging discs C3-C4, and greater at C4-C5.

3. Reduction of the caliber of the spinal canal at C6-C7, greater on the right but no spinal stenosis. Considerable bony foraminal encroachment, to include the right C3-C4, the left C5-C6, and the right C6-C7 neural foramen.

CT SCAN FACIAL BONES: There is anterior nasal septal deviation to the patient's right with deviation of the nasal pyramid to the left. No nasal bone fracture, however. No fracture either maxillary sinus. Frontal, maxillary, and ethmoid air cells are clear. Near opacification of the left sphenoid sinus with moderate opacification of the right sphenoid sinus. This could be related to pre-existing sinusitis or to blood in light of the patient's history of facial trauma. The zygomatic arches are intact. No left or right orbital fracture. No intraconal or extraconal soft tissue mass or hemorrhage. The orbital globes are normal.

Impression:
1. No facial bone fracture.

2. Near opacification of the left sphenoid sinus with moderate opacification of the right sphenoid sinus. This may be related to pre-existing sinus disease or to blood, given the patient's history of facial trauma. The above CT findings of the head, cervical spine, and

Name: LYONS,RONALD L
Phys: Bianco MD,Joseph R.
DOB: [redacted] Age: 39 Sex: M
Acct No: [redacted] Loc: ER
Exam Date: 08/14/2019 Status: DEP ER
Radiology No:

Name: LYONS,RONALD L

Unit No: H000056569

EXAM#	TYPE/EXAM	RESULT
000314293	CT/CT HEAD W/O IV CONTRAST	
000314294	CT/CT C-SPINE W/O IV CONT.	
000314295	CT/CT FACIAL/SINUS W/O CONTRAST	

facial bones were reported by VRAD to the emergency room at the time of the examination.

DICTATED BY: Dr. Thomas Doud

Voice recognition software may have been used to create portions of this document. An attempt at proofreading has been made to minimize errors. If, however, the clinical provider notes inconsistent information or has questions concerning any part of the document, please contact the Radiology Department for clinical clarification.

** REPORT ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED 08/16/2019 (1319) **
Reported By: THOMAS DOUD,MD
Signed By: DOUD MD,THOMAS

CC:

Dictated Date/time: 08/15/2019 (1318)
Transcribed Date/Time: 08/16/2019 (1029)
Transcriptionist: MRD.CGT
Printed Date/Time: 08/17/2019 (0002)

Name: LYONS,RONALD L
Phys: Bianco MD,Joseph R.
DOB: [redacted] Age: 35 Sex: M
Acct No: [redacted] Loc. ER
Exam Date: 08/14/2019 Status: DEP ER
Radiology No:

DATE: 8/29/19

The information enclosed in the following document/s pertains to the patient: **Lyons, Ronald**

FROM:

MEDICAL RECORDS
RELEASE OF INFORMATION
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
Phone (843)792-3881 - Status/General Information

If you have received this communication in error, please notify the MUSC Compliance Office immediately at (843)792-4037. Thank you.

The enclosed documents accompanying this cover sheet contain confidential information intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee responsible for delivering the communication/documents to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited.

ED Provider Notes by Christine M. Carr, MD at 8/14/2019 10:37 PM (continued)

Unable to perform ROS: Mental status change

Physical Exam

BP 103/63 | Pulse 77 | Temp 36 °C (96.8 °F) | Resp 22 | Ht 180.3 cm (5' 11") | Wt 87 kg (191 lb 12.8 oz) | SpO2 99% | BMI 26.75 kg/m²

Physical Exam

Constitutional: He appears well-developed and well-nourished. He appears distressed.
HENT:
Epistaxis, resolved
No facial bone instability/laxity or tenderness to palpation; no laxity of the palate; no malocclusion
Bilateral TM's clear without hemotympanum; no Battle's/Racoon's sign; no septal hematomas
No other hematomas or abrasions noted
Eyes: Conjunctivae and EOM are normal. Pupils are equal, round, and reactive to light. No scleral icterus.
Neck: No JVD present.
Cervical collar in place
Cardiovascular: Normal rate, regular rhythm, normal heart sounds and intact distal pulses. Exam reveals no gallop and no friction rub.
No murmur heard.
Pulmonary/Chest: Effort normal and breath sounds normal. No stridor. No respiratory distress. He has no wheezes. He has no rales.
Abdominal: Soft. He exhibits no distension. There is no tenderness. There is no rebound and no guarding.
Musculoskeletal: Normal range of motion. He exhibits no deformity.
Neurological: He is alert. He exhibits normal muscle tone. Coordination normal.
Moving all extremities well, not answering questions
Skin: Skin is warm and dry. No rash noted. He is not diaphoretic.
Psychiatric: He has a normal mood and affect. His behavior is normal.
Nursing note and vitals reviewed.

ED Documentation - Procedures and MDM

Critical Care

Performed by: **Christine M. Carr, MD**
Authorized by: **Christine M. Carr, MD**
Total critical care time: 35 minutes
Critical care time was exclusive of teaching time and separately billable procedures and treating other patients.
Critical care was necessary to treat or prevent imminent or life-threatening deterioration of the following conditions: CNS failure or compromise (Head injury/intracerebral hemorrhage with severe combative activity and agitation, difficult to control).
Critical care was time spent personally by me on the following activities: development of treatment plan with patient or surrogate, discussions with consultants, evaluation of patient's response to treatment, examination of patient, obtaining history from patient or surrogate, ordering and performing treatments and interventions, ordering and review of laboratory studies, ordering and review of radiographic studies, pulse oximetry, re-evaluation of patient's condition and review of old charts.
Comments: **Patient presented with CT scan from outside hospital consistent with intraparenchymal and subdural hemorrhage. Patient was very agitated on arrival, was very difficult to stabilize and sedate. Was treated with Versed, then Haldol without improvement, was finally successfully sedated with**

ED Provider Notes by Christine M. Carr, MD at 8/14/2019 10:37 PM (continued)

HEMATOCRIT	37.0 (*)	42.0 - 52.0 %
MEAN CORPUSCULAR HEMOGLOBIN	28.9	27.0 - 31.0 pg
MEAN CORPUSCULAR HEMOGLOBIN CONC	33.5	30.7 - 34.4 GMS/DL
RED CELL DISTRIBUTION WIDTH	13.2	11.5 - 14.5 %
MEAN CORPUSCULAR VOLUME	86.2	80.0 - 94.0 FL
PLATELET COUNT	190	140 - 440 K/CUMM
MEAN PLATELET VOLUME	11.4	9.2 - 12.3 FL
NUCLEATED RED BLOOD CELLS	0.0	0.0 - 0.2 /100WC
PROTIME-INR		
PROTHROMBIN TIME	13.6	12.0 - 15.1 SEC
INR	1.03	0.90 - 1.20
HEPATITIS C ANTIBODY		
HEPATITIS C ANTIBODY INTERPRETATION	Nonreactive	
HIV-1 AND HIV-2 ANTIBODIES		
HIV-1 AND HIV-2 ANTIBODIES (GROUP)	Nonreactive	Nonreactive
POCT GLUCOSE		
POCT GLUCOSE		

Imaging - FINAL READ ONLY

ED FINAL READ - IMAGES

Procedure	Component	Value	Units	Date/Time
CT Head Venogram W & WO Contrast [169600679]				Resulted: 08/15/19 2136
Order Status: No result				Updated: 08/15/19 2155
CT HEAD WO CONTRAST [169556625]				Collected: 08/14/19 2208
Order Status: Completed				Updated: 08/15/19 0836

Narrative:

EXAMINATION: CT HEAD WO CONTRAST 8/14/2019 9:57 PM

ACCESSION NUMBER: 13375325

INDICATION: assault to head Head trauma, minor, GCS>=13, high clinical risk, initial exam, SDH, SAH on OSH read

ED Provider Notes by Christine M. Carr, MD at 8/14/2019 10:37 PM (continued)

Procedure	Component	Value	Units	Date/Time

RADIMETRICS DOSE: Scanner: SOMATOM Force MUHCT1W. Slice Thickness: 0.75 mm. CTDIvol: 11.9 mGy. DLP: 539.8 mGy-cm.

FINDINGS:

Both common carotid arteries and vertebral arteries show regular morphology and course. Bilateral carotid bifurcations are within normal limits. The internal carotid arteries bilaterally show regular course.

There is no evidence of occlusion, dissection, pseudoaneurysm or contrast extravasation. Study is not optimized for venous evaluation, however there is poor opacification of the distal left sigmoid sinus and jugular bulb.

There is no evidence of acute cervical spine fracture or subluxation. The craniocervical junction is normal. There is normal alignment. Vertebral body heights are maintained. Posterior elements are unremarkable.

There is no prevertebral soft tissue swelling. Please see same day chest CT for findings below the thoracic inlet. Partially visualized occipital bone fracture better characterized on same-day head CT.

Impression:
IMPRESSION:

1. No evidence of acute traumatic osseous injury to the cervical spine.
2. No evidence of acute arterial injury to the neck. Study is not optimized for venous evaluation, however there appears to be poor opacification of the distal left sigmoid sinus and jugular bulb adjacent to the left occipital bone fracture, which may represent venous injury/thrombosis. Recommend dedicated CT/MR venogram for further evaluation.

Dictated by: John Hohenberger, MD. 8/14/2019 10:33 PM

I, Milad Yazdani, MD, have reviewed the study and agree with the findings in this report. 8/15/2019 8:30 AM

CT Chest Abdomen Pelvis W Contrast [169556627] Collected: 08/14/19 2224
Order Status: Completed Updated: 08/15/19 0654

Narrative.
EXAMINATION: CT TRAUMA CHEST / ABDOMEN / PELVIS WITH CONTRAST 8/14/2019 9:59 PM

ACCESSION NUMBER: 13375327

INDICATION: Chest-abd-pelvis trauma, minor, blunt, assault assault and fall

COMPARISON: None

TECHNIQUE: Trauma protocol helical CT imaging of the chest, abdomen and pelvis was performed following the administration of IV contrast. Coronal and sagittal images reconstructed from the axial data set. Delays were not obtained.

ED Provider Notes by Christine M. Carr, MD at 8/14/2019 10:37 PM (continued)

Procedure	Component	Value	Units	Date/Time

Impression:
IMPRESSION:

No evidence of acute trauma in the chest.

Indeterminate 0.8 cm lesion in the left hepatic lobe, possibly a hemangioma. Consider nonemergent MRI for further evaluation.

No evidence of acute trauma in the abdomen or pelvis.

Dictated by: Joseph Kovacich, DO. 8/14/2019 10:37 PM

I, Stephen Schabel, MD, have reviewed the study and agree with the findings in this report. 8/15/2019 6:53 AM

Imaging - WET & FINAL READ

Imaging Results

CT Chest Abdomen Pelvis W Contrast (Final result) Result time 08/15/19 06:53:49

Final result by Stephen I Schabel, MD (08/15/19 06:53:49)

Impression:
IMPRESSION:

No evidence of acute trauma in the chest.

Indeterminate 0.8 cm lesion in the left hepatic lobe, possibly a hemangioma. Consider nonemergent MRI for further evaluation.

No evidence of acute trauma in the abdomen or pelvis.

Dictated by: Joseph Kovacich, DO. 8/14/2019 10:37 PM

I, Stephen Schabel, MD, have reviewed the study and agree with the findings in this report. 8/15/2019 6:53 AM

Narrative:
EXAMINATION: CT TRAUMA CHEST / ABDOMEN / PELVIS WITH CONTRAST 8/14/2019 9:59 PM

ACCESSION NUMBER: 13375327

INDICATION: Chest-abd-pelvis trauma, minor, blunt, assault assault and fall

COMPARISON: None

TECHNIQUE: Trauma protocol helical CT imaging of the chest, abdomen and pelvis

ED Provider Notes by Christine M. Carr, MD at 8/14/2019 10:37 PM (continued)

CT Trauma Ang Neck With Contrast (Final result) Result time 08/15/19 08:30:31
Final result by Milad Yazdani, MD (08/15/19 08:30:31)

Impression:

IMPRESSION:

1. No evidence of acute traumatic osseous injury to the cervical spine.
2. No evidence of acute arterial injury to the neck. Study is not optimized for venous evaluation, however there appears to be poor opacification of the distal left sigmoid sinus and jugular bulb adjacent to the left occipital bone fracture, which may represent venous injury/thrombosis. Recommend dedicated CT/MR venogram for further evaluation.

Dictated by: John Hohenberger, MD. 8/14/2019 10:33 PM

I, Milad Yazdani, MD, have reviewed the study and agree with the findings in this report. 8/15/2019 8:30 AM

Narrative:

EXAMINATION: CT TRAUMA NECK WITH CONTRAST 8/14/2019 9:58 PM

ACCESSION NUMBER: 13375326

INDICATION: assault C-spine trauma, high clinical risk, initial eval negative, collar for pain, follow up, assault to head

COMPARISON: Same-day head CT

TECHNIQUE: Cervical spine CT with neck CT angiogram following intravenous administration of contrast. Sagittal and coronal reconstructions were performed. 3D reconstructions were performed.

RADIMETRICS DOSE: Scanner: SOMATOM Force MUHCT1W. Slice Thickness: 0.75 mm. CTDIvol: 11.9 mGy. DLP: 539.8 mGy-cm.

FINDINGS:

Both common carotid arteries and vertebral arteries show regular morphology and course. Bilateral carotid bifurcations are within normal limits. The internal carotid arteries bilaterally show regular course.

There is no evidence of occlusion, dissection, pseudoaneurysm or contrast extravasation. Study is not optimized for venous evaluation, however there is poor opacification of the distal left sigmoid sinus and jugular bulb.

There is no evidence of acute cervical spine fracture or subluxation. The craniocervical junction is normal. There is normal alignment. Vertebral body heights are maintained. Posterior elements are unremarkable.

ED Provider Notes by Christine M. Carr, MD at 8/14/2019 10:37 PM (continued)

Partial opacification of sphenoid sinuses. The visualized orbits are unremarkable.

ED Medications: Ordered, Reviewed & Administered

ED Medications

Medications
phenytoin (DILANTIN) 50mg/mL injection 100 mg (not administered)
iohexol (OMNIPAQUE) 350 mg iodine/mL injection 100 mL (not administered)
NaCl 0.9% infusion (not administered)
ondansetron (PF) (ZOFRAN) 2mg/mL injection 4 mg (not administered)
acetaminophen (TYLENOL) tablet 650 mg (not administered)
tamsulosin (FLOMAX) 24 hr extended release capsule 0.4 mg (not administered)
enoxaparin (LOVENOX) 30 mg/0.3 mL subcutaneous injectable syringe 30 mg (not administered)
gabapentin (NEURONTIN) capsule 300 mg (not administered)
QUEtiapine (SEROQUEL) tablet 25 mg (not administered)
NaCl 0.9% bolus (1,000 mL Intravenous New Bag/Syringe Hung 8/14/19 2051)
midazolam (PF) (VERSED) 1mg/mL injection (Canceled Entry 8/14/19 2100)
haloperidol lactate (HALDOL) 5 mg/mL injection (Intravenous Canceled Entry 8/14/19 2100)
phenytoin (DILANTIN) 1,500 mg in NaCl 0.9% 250 mL IVPB (1,500 mg Intravenous New Bag/Syringe Hung 8/14/19 2229)
midazolam (PF) (VERSED) 1mg/mL injection (1 mg Intravenous Given 8/14/19 2125)
midazolam (PF) (VERSED) 1mg/mL injection (1 mg Intravenous Given 8/14/19 2113)
ketamine (KETALAR) 10mg/mL injection 100 mg (100 mg Intravenous Given 8/14/19 2134)
midazolam (PF) (VERSED) 1mg/mL injection (1 mg Intravenous Given 8/14/19 2115)
iohexol (OMNIPAQUE) 350 mg iodine/mL injection 100 mL (100 mL Intravenous Given 8/14/19 2158)
midazolam (PF) (VERSED) 1mg/mL injection 1 mg 1 mL (not administered)
NaCl 0.9% bolus 1,000 mL (not administered)
midazolam (PF) (VERSED) 1mg/mL injection 2 mg 2 mL (not administered)
midazolam (PF) (VERSED) 1mg/mL injection 2 mg 2 mL (not administered)
iohexol (OMNIPAQUE) 350 mg iodine/mL injection 80 mL (not administered)
midazolam (PF) (VERSED) 1mg/mL injection 2 mg 2 mL (not administered)
midazolam (PF) (VERSED) 1mg/mL injection (not administered)

ED Provider Notes by Christine M. Carr, MD at 8/14/2019 10:37 PM (continued)

as documented in the House Staff's Note.

Christine M. Carr 8/16 8:15 AM

Alexander M Clendening, MD
Resident
08/15/19 0915

Christine M. Carr, MD
08/16/19 0816

Christine M. Carr, MD
08/16/19 0823

Electronically signed by Christine M. Carr, MD on 8/16/2019 8:23 AM

Consults by Stephen Kalhorn, MD at 8/15/2019 12:00 AM (continued)

Family History

family history is not on file.

Social History

reports that he does not drink alcohol.

Review of Systems

Constitution: Negative
HENT: Negative
EYES: Negative
Respiratory: Negative
Cardiovascular: Negative
Endocrine: Negative
GI: Negative
GU: Negative
Musculoskeletal: Negative
Neurological: Headaches
Psychiatric: Confusion
On anticoagulation medications:No

Home Medications

No known medications

Prior to Admission medications
Not on File

Imaging

As per HPI

Labs

WBC/Hgb/Hct/Plts: 14.51/12.4/37.0/190 (08/14 2103)

Na/K/Cl/CO2: 135.0/4.30/101.0/25 (08/14 2103)
BUN/Cr/glu/ALT/AST/amyl/lip: 14.0/1.0/--/--/--/--/-- (08/14 2103)

--
1.03
20.6
--
--
-- (08/14 2103)

Consults by Stephen Kalhorn, MD at 8/15/2019 12:00 AM (continued)

For any question or concerns regarding this patient from 6AM to 6PM Monday-Friday, please page the Neurosurgery Team C resident.

Laura Wolgamott, MD
Date: 8/15/2019
Time: 3:13 AM

I have developed this plan, discussed this case with the residents, and I agree with the documented note.

-Stephen P. Kalhorn, MD

Electronically signed by Stephen Kalhorn, MD on 8/15/2019 7:23 AM

Discharge Summary by Helen L Dainton-Howard, MD at 8/19/2019 9:32 AM (continued)

Eyes: UTA
Respiratory: UTA
Cardiovascular: UTA
GI: UTA
GU: UTA
Musculoskeletal: UTA
Neurological: UTA
Psychiatric:UTA
On anticoagulation medications: No

Past Medical History

Past Medical History:

Diagnosis	Date
• Reported gun shot wound	

Surgical History

Past Surgical History:

Procedure	Laterality	Date
• ABDOMINAL SURGERY		

Admission Medications

No medications prior to admission.

Discharge Medications

Current Discharge Medication List

START taking these medications

	Details
levETIRAcetam (KEPPRA) 1,000 mg tablet	Take 1 tablet by mouth 2 times daily for 5 days. Do not crush, break, split or chew. *Qty:* 10 tablet, *Refills:* 0

Associated Diagnoses: Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis

Allergies

Review of patient's allergies indicates:
No Known Allergies

Family History

No family history on file.

Discharge Summary by Helen L Dainton-Howard, MD at 8/19/2019 9:32 AM (continued)

Emotionally abused:	Not on file
Physically abused:	Not on file
Forced sexual activity:	Not on file

Other Topics Concern

- Not on file

Social History Narrative

- Not on file

Admission Physical Exam

Physical Exam

Constitutional: Normal and Well Developed
HENT: Dried blood around nares
Neck: Normal range of motion
Pulm / Chest: Effort normal
Abdominal: Soft, non-tender, and non-distended
Musculoskeletal: Normal
Skin: Bruising

Neurological Exam

Sedation Level: Minimal or no sedation
Alertness: Alert
Orientation: Oriented to time, place, and person
Cranial Nerves: UTA due to pt being combative
Brainstem Reflexes: Deferred
Eyes: 4 Spontaneous
Verbal: 5- Oriented
Motor Exam:

	Right	Left
UE	Normal	Normal
LE	Normal	Normal

Sensory: UTA
Pronator Drift: UTA

Significant Diagnostic Tests

Recent Results (from the past 168 hour(s))

CT HEAD WO CONTRAST

Narrative

EXAMINATION: CT HEAD WO CONTRAST 8/14/2019 9:57 PM

ACCESSION NUMBER: 13375325

INDICATION: assault to head Head trauma, minor, GCS>=13, high clinical risk, initial exam, SDH, SAH on OSH read

Discharge Summary by Helen L Dainton-Howard, MD at 8/19/2019 9:32 AM (continued)

FINDINGS:

Both common carotid arteries and vertebral arteries show regular morphology and course. Bilateral carotid bifurcations are within normal limits. The internal carotid arteries bilaterally show regular course.

There is no evidence of occlusion, dissection, pseudoaneurysm or contrast extravasation. Study is not optimized for venous evaluation, however there is poor opacification of the distal left sigmoid sinus and jugular bulb.

There is no evidence of acute cervical spine fracture or subluxation. The craniocervical junction is normal. There is normal alignment. Vertebral body heights are maintained. Posterior elements are unremarkable.

There is no prevertebral soft tissue swelling. Please see same day chest CT for findings below the thoracic inlet. Partially visualized occipital bone fracture better characterized on same-day head CT.

Impression
IMPRESSION:

1. No evidence of acute traumatic osseous injury to the cervical spine.
2. No evidence of acute arterial injury to the neck. Study is not optimized for venous evaluation, however there appears to be poor opacification of the distal left sigmoid sinus and jugular bulb adjacent to the left occipital bone fracture, which may represent venous injury/thrombosis. Recommend dedicated CT/MR venogram for further evaluation.

Dictated by: John Hohenberger, MD. 8/14/2019 10:33 PM

I, Milad Yazdani, MD, have reviewed the study and agree with the findings in this report. 8/15/2019 8:30 AM

CT Chest Abdomen Pelvis W Contrast

Narrative
EXAMINATION: CT TRAUMA CHEST / ABDOMEN / PELVIS WITH CONTRAST 8/14/2019 9:59 PM

ACCESSION NUMBER: 13375327

INDICATION: Chest-abd-pelvis trauma, minor, blunt, assault assault and fall

COMPARISON: None

TECHNIQUE: Trauma protocol helical CT imaging of the chest, abdomen and pelvis was performed following the administration of IV contrast. Coronal and sagittal images reconstructed from the axial data set. Delays were not obtained.

FINDINGS:

CHEST:

Summary Discharge Report

RUN DATE: 08/20/19
RUN TIME: 0000

BATCH # 5066638

USER:
PRICE, STACEY

SLED LABORATORY
FORENSIC SERVICES REQUEST

SLED LAB No. L19-06378
Submission: 1 3/20/2019 3:55:30PM

Name of Investigating officer: Jarrett Maffett	ORI No: SCLED0000
Agency: South Carolina Law Enforcement Division Phone No: 737-9000	Agency Case No: 78-19-0059
Fax No: Email: Jmaffett@sled.sc.gov	Offense: DRUG EVIDENCE
Mailing Address: 4400 Broad River Road	County: Florence
City / State / Zip:	Offense Date: 03/18/2019
CC: Columbia, SC 29210	Officer Involved Shooting ☐ Yes
	Rush: ☐ Yes

Is this evidence related to another lab number?
☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, Lab Number:

SLED ITEM No LAB ONLY	Agency Item No.	Description of Evidence	Analysis Requested
1	B275178	BEST Kit Evidence -	DRUG ANALYSIS

Subject(s)	Sex	Race	DOB	SSN
Anthony Elijahjuan Melton	M	B	05/04/1987	

Comments

All sealed evidence packages accepted by the laboratory are assumed to contain what they are "said to contain" by the submitter. The laboratory does not conduct a detailed inventory of evidence package contents during the evidence intake process.

Submitted By :

via Evidence Submission Lockers
B275178

Received By :

Charlotte Pitts

Charlotte Pitts
Forensic Technician

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT 9
11/16/2021

SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

FORENSIC SERVICES LABORATORY REPORT

HENRY D. MCMASTER
Governor

MARK A. KEEL
Chief

October 11, 2019

Jarrett Maffett
South Carolina Law Enforcement Division
4400 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29210

DRUG ANALYSIS
SLED LAB: L19-06378
Your Case No: 78-19-0059
Incident Date: 3/18/2019
[S] Anthony Melton

This is an official report of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division Forensic Services Laboratory and is to be used in connection with an official criminal investigation. These examinations were conducted under your assurance that no previous examinations of person(s) or evidence submitted in this case have been or will be conducted by any other laboratory or agency.

Mark A. Keel, Chief
South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

PARTIAL

ITEMS OF EVIDENCE:

Item: 1 BEST Kit B275178

Item: 1.1 Ziplock bag containing plastic bag containing plastic bag containing powder substance
RESULTS:
Fentanyl (C-II) and Tramadol (C-IV) found in the sample tested; 1 tested. Net weight: 8.04 +/- 0.01 grams (124.07 +/- 0.15 grains). Confidence level for the weight is 99.7%.

Item: 1.2 Ziplock bag containing plastic bag containing rock substance
RESULTS:
Cocaine Base (Crack) (C-II) found in the sample tested; 1 tested. Net weight: 1.59 +/- 0.01 grams (24.53 +/- 0.15 grains). Confidence level for the weight is 99.7%.

Item: 1.3 Ziplock bag containing plastic bag containing plant substance
RESULTS:
Cannabis found in the sample tested; 1 tested. Net weight: 2.02 +/- 0.01 grams (0.0713 +/- 0.0004 ounces). Confidence level for the weight is 99.7%.

Item: 1.4 Ziplock bag containing plastic bag containing...

Item: 1.4.1 Thirteen (13) blue/green tablets (Trump)
RESULTS:
Eutylone (bk-EBDB) (Substituted Cathinone) (C-I) found in the sample tested; 1 tested. Net weight: 3.93 +/- 0.01 grams (60.64 +/- 0.15 grains). Confidence level for the weight is 99.7%.

Item: 1.4.2 Twelve (12) green/yellow tablets (fish)
RESULTS:
Eutylone (bk-EBDB) (Substituted Cathinone) (C-I) found in the sample tested; 1 tested. Net weight: 5.18 +/- 0.01 grams (79.93 +/- 0.15 grains). Confidence level for the weight is 99.7%.

Item: 1.4.3 Eleven (11) green tablets (Tesla)
RESULTS:
Eutylone (bk-EBDB) (Substituted Cathinone) (C-I) found in the sample tested; 1 tested. Net weight: 3.15 +/- 0.01 grams (48.61 +/- 0.15 grains). Confidence level for the weight is 99.7%.

Item: 1.4.4 Eight (8) blue tablets (Tesla)
RESULTS:
The maximum attainable statutory threshold has been met for this substance based on indicative testing results consistent with item 1.4.3. Item was not subjected to confirmatory testing.

Net weight of the tested substance is 2.24 +/- 0.01 grams; 1 tested.

Item: 1.4.5 Five (5) white tablets (Trump)
RESULTS:
The maximum attainable statutory threshold has been met for this substance based on indicative testing results consistent with item 1.4.3. Item was not subjected to confirmatory testing.

Net weight of the tested substance is 1.49 +/- 0.01 grams; 1 tested.

October 11, 2019
L19-06378

Item: 1.4.6 One (1) yellow tablet (Trump)

RESULTS:

The maximum attainable statutory threshold has been met for this substance based on indicative testing results consistent with item 1.4.3. Item was not subjected to confirmatory testing.

Net weight of the tested substance is 0.30 +/- 0.01 grams; 1 tested.

This report contains the conclusions, opinions and interpretations of the analyst whose signature appears below.

Technical records supporting the conclusions in this report are available upon request. Afford sufficient time for production.

Maribeth C. McCormack
Forensic Scientist

October 11, 2019
L19-06378

Supplement to Analysis for Controlled Substance

I, Maribeth C. McCormack, am a Forensic Scientist employed by the South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division (SLED), certified by SLED as a Forensic Scientist qualified to perform testing and analysis for controlled and/or dangerous substances prohibited by law in this State by Title 44, Chapter 53 of the Code of Laws and Rule 61-4 of the Department of Health and Environmental Control.

I have 11 years and 6 months experience as a Forensic Scientist. During that period, I have been qualified as an expert witness and testified in court no less than 38 times. I have received the following training as a Forensic Scientist.

BS Chemistry, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 2003
MT Secondary Science Education, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 2004
Marijuana Analyst Certification, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, 2008
South Carolina Law and Legal Training, South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy, 2008
Training in Forensic Drug Analysis, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, 2008
Drug Enforcement Administration, Forensic Chemist Seminar, 2009

I tested the above item(s) using the following legally reliable forensic laboratory procedures approved by SLED:

[X] Chemical Test
[X] Microscopic Exam
[ ] Infrared Spectroscopy
[ ] Visual Examination
[X] Gas Chromatography
[X] Mass Spectroscopy
[X] Physical Test
[ ] Published Literature

Forensic Scientist

Maribeth C. McCormack

Maribeth C. McCormack

Date: October 11, 2019

SLED LABORATORY
FORENSIC SERVICES REQUEST

SLED LAB No. L19-06378
Submission: 2 4/4/2019 9:17:22AM

Name of Investigating officer: Jarrett Maffett	ORI No: SCLED0000
Agency: South Carolina Law Enforcement Division Phone No: 737-9000	Agency Case No: 78-19-0059
Fax No: Email: Jmaffett@sled.sc.gov	Offense: DRUG EVIDENCE
Mailing Address: 4400 Broad River Road	County: Florence
City / State / Zip:	Offense Date: 03/18/2019
CC: Columbia, SC 29210	Officer Involved Shooting ☐ Yes
	Rush: ☐ Yes

Is this evidence related to another lab number?
☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, Lab Number:

SLED ITEM No LAB ONLY	Agency Item No.	Description of Evidence	Analysis Requested
2	B275177	BEST Kit Evidence -	DRUG ANALYSIS

Suspect(s)	Sex	Race	DOB	SSN
Anthony Elijahjuan Melton	M	B	05/04/1987	

Comments

All sealed evidence packages accepted by the laboratory are assumed to contain what they are "said to contain" by the submitter. The laboratory does not conduct a detailed inventory of evidence package contents during the evidence intake process.

Submitted By :

via Evidence Submission Lockers
B275178

Received By :

Jackie M. Davis

Jackie M. Davis
Forensic Technician

SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

FORENSIC SERVICES LABORATORY REPORT

HENRY D. MCMASTER
Governor

MARK A. KEEL
Chief

October 11, 2019

Jarrett Maffett
South Carolina Law Enforcement Division
4400 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29210

DRUG ANALYSIS
SLED LAB: L19-06378
Your Case No: 78-19-0059
Incident Date: 3/18/2019
[S] Anthony Melton

This is an official report of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division Forensic Services Laboratory and is to be used in connection with an official criminal investigation. These examinations were conducted under your assurance that no previous examinations of person(s) or evidence submitted in this case have been or will be conducted by any other laboratory or agency.

Mark A. Keel, Chief
South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

PARTIAL

ITEMS OF EVIDENCE:

Item: 2 BEST Kit B275177

Item: 2.1 Plastic bag containing powder substance
RESULTS:
Fentanyl (C-II) and Tramadol (C-IV) found in the sample tested; 1 tested. Net weight: 6.90 +/- 0.01 grams (106.48 +/- 0.15 grains). Confidence level for the weight is 99.7%.

Item: 2.2 Plastic bag containing four (4) white tablets (RP/10325)
RESULTS:
Oxycodone and Acetaminophen (C-II) found in the sample tested; 1 tested.

P.O. Box 21398, Columbia, South Carolina 29221-1398 Phone (803) 896-7300 Fax (803) 896-7351

Item: 2.3 Plastic bag containing...

Item: 2.3.1 Eleven (11) blue tablets (LEGO)
RESULTS:
Eutylone (bk-EBDB) (Substituted Cathinone) (C-I) and Methamphetamine (C-II) found in the sample tested; 1 tested. Net weight: 4.83 +/- 0.01 grams (74.53 +/- 0.15 grains). Confidence level for the weight is 99.7%.

Item: 2.3.2 Nine (9) green/yellow tablets (Trump)
RESULTS:
Eutylone (bk-EBDB) (Substituted Cathinone) (C-I) found in the sample tested; 1 tested. Net weight: 3.67 +/- 0.01 grams (56.63 +/- 0.15 grains). Confidence level for the weight is 99.7%.

Item: 2.3.3 Seven (7) green/yellow tablets (LEGO)
RESULTS:
Eutylone (bk-EBDB) (Substituted Cathinone) (C-I) and Methamphetamine (C-II) found in the sample tested; 1 tested. Net weight: 3.29 +/- 0.01 grams (50.77 +/- 0.15 grains). Confidence level for the weight is 99.7%.

Item: 2.3.4 Five (5) green tablets (fish)
RESULTS:
The maximum attainable statutory threshold has been met for this substance based on indicative testing results consistent with item 2.3.2. Item was not subjected to confirmatory testing.

Net weight of the tested substance is 1.90 +/- 0.01 grams; 1 tested.

Item: 2.3.5 Three (3) blue tablets and tablet fragments (fish)
RESULTS:
The maximum attainable statutory threshold has been met for this substance based on indicative testing results consistent with item 2.3.2. Item was not subjected to confirmatory testing.

Net weight of the tested substance is 1.91 +/- 0.01 grams; 1 tested.

Item: 2.3.6 Six (6) green/blue tablets (Trump)

RESULTS:

The maximum attainable statutory threshold has been met for this substance based on indicative testing results consistent with item 2.3.2. Item was not subjected to confirmatory testing.

Net weight of the tested substance is 2.44 +/- 0.01 grams; 1 tested.

Item: 2.3.7 Seven (7) green/blue tablets (Tesla)

RESULTS:

The maximum attainable statutory threshold has been met for this substance based on indicative testing results consistent with item 2.3.2. Item was not subjected to confirmatory testing.

Net weight of the tested substance is 2.49 +/- 0.01 grams; 1 tested.

This report contains the conclusions, opinions and interpretations of the analyst whose signature appears below.

Technical records supporting the conclusions in this report are available upon request. Afford sufficient time for production.

Maribeth C. McCormack
Forensic Scientist

October 11, 2019
L19-06378

Supplement to Analysis for Controlled Substance

I, Maribeth C. McCormack, am a Forensic Scientist employed by the South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division (SLED), certified by SLED as a Forensic Scientist qualified to perform testing and analysis for controlled and/or dangerous substances prohibited by law in this State by Title 44, Chapter 53 of the Code of Laws and Rule 61-4 of the Department of Health and Environmental Control.

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Drug Enforcement Administration, Forensic Chemist Seminar, 2009

I tested the above item(s) using the following legally reliable forensic laboratory procedures approved by SLED:

[X] Chemical Test
[ ] Microscopic Exam
[ ] Infrared Spectroscopy
[X] Visual Examination
[X] Gas Chromatography
[X] Mass Spectroscopy
[ ] Physical Test
[X] Published Literature

Forensic Scientist

Maribeth C. McCormack

Maribeth C. McCormack

Date: October 11, 2019

SLED LABORATORY
FORENSIC SERVICES REQUEST

SLED LAB No. L19-02830
Submission: 8 4/30/2019 4:50:31PM

Name of Investigating officer: Randal Risher
Agency: South Carolina Law Enforcement Division **Phone No:** 737-9000
Fax No: **Email:** rrisher@sled@sc.gov
Mailing Address: 4400 Broad River Road
City / State / Zip:
CC: Columbia, SC 29210

ORI No: SCLED0000
Agency Case No: 78-19-0040
Offense: DRUG EVIDENCE
County: Hampton
Offense Date: 04/29/2019
Officer Involved Shooting ☐ Yes
Rush: ☐ Yes

Is this evidence related to another lab number?
☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, Lab Number:

SLED ITEM No LAB ONLY	Agency Item No.	Description of Evidence	Analysis Requested
8	B298637	BEST Kit Evidence -	DRUG ANALYSIS

Suspect(s)	Sex	Race	DOB	SSN
Ronald Lee Lyons	M	W	03/16/1984	
Amber Nicole Dandridge	F	W	08/04/1992	
Courtney Melinda Lane	F	W	12/08/1994	
Terri Lynn Beach	F	W	03/29/1982	

Comments

All sealed evidence packages accepted by the laboratory are assumed to contain what they are "said to contain" by the submitter. The laboratory does not conduct a detailed inventory of evidence package contents during the evidence intake process.

Submitted By :

via Evidence Submission Lockers
B298637

Received By :

Doris P Yarbrough

Doris Yarbrough
Forensic Technician

SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

FORENSIC SERVICES LABORATORY REPORT

HENRY D. MCMASTER
Governor

MARK A. KEEL
Chief

May 21, 2019

Randal Risher
South Carolina Law Enforcement Division
4400 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29210

DRUG ANALYSIS
SLED LAB: L19-02830
Your Case No: 78-19-0040
Incident Date: 2/1/2019
[S] Terri Beach

This is an official report of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division Forensic Services Laboratory and is to be used in connection with an official criminal investigation. These examinations were conducted under your assurance that no previous examinations of person(s) or evidence submitted in this case have been or will be conducted by any other laboratory or agency.

Mark A. Keel, Chief
South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

PARTIAL

ITEMS OF EVIDENCE:

Item: 8.1 Crystal substance
RESULTS:
Methamphetamine (C-II) found in the sample tested; 1 tested. Net weight: 7.43 +/- 0.01 grams (114.65 +/- 0.15 grains). Confidence level for the weight is 99.7%.

This report contains the conclusions, opinions and interpretations of the analyst whose signature appears below.

Maribeth C. McCormack
Forensic Scientist

P.O. Box 21398, Columbia, South Carolina 29221-1398 Phone (803) 896-7300 Fax (803) 896-7351

May 21, 2019
L19-02830

Supplement to Analysis for Controlled Substance

I, Maribeth C. McCormack, am a Forensic Scientist employed by the South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division (SLED), certified by SLED as a Forensic Scientist qualified to perform testing and analysis for controlled and/or dangerous substances prohibited by law in this State by Title 44, Chapter 53 of the Code of Laws and Rule 61-4 of the Department of Health and Environmental Control.

I have 11 years and 2 months experience as a Forensic Scientist. During that period, I have been qualified as an expert witness and testified in court no less than 36 times. I have received the following training as a Forensic Scientist.

BS Chemistry, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 2003
MT Secondary Science Education, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 2004
Marijuana Analyst Certification, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, 2008
South Carolina Law and Legal Training, South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy, 2008
Training in Forensic Drug Analysis, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, 2008
Drug Enforcement Administration, Forensic Chemist Seminar, 2009

I tested the above item(s) using the following legally reliable forensic laboratory procedures approved by SLED:

[X] Chemical Test
[ ] Microscopic Exam
[ ] Infrared Spectroscopy
[ ] Visual Examination
[X] Gas Chromatography
[X] Mass Spectroscopy
[ ] Physical Test
[ ] Published Literature

Forensic Scientist

Maribeth C. McCormack

Maribeth C. McCormack

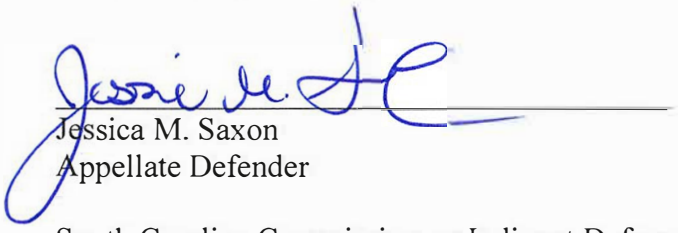
Date: May 21, 2019

P.O. Box 21398, Columbia, South Carolina 29221-1398 Phone (803) 896-7300 Fax (803) 896-7351

CERTIFICATE OF COUNSEL FOR APPELLANT

Counsel for appellant certifies that this Record on Appeal contains all material proposed to be included by any of the parties and not any other material and that this Record on Appeal complies to the best of my ability with the April 15, 2014 order from the South Carolina Supreme Court entitled "Revised Order Concerning Personal Identifying Information and Other Sensitive Information in Appellate Court Filings."

Respectfully Submitted,



Jessica M. Saxon
Appellate Defender

South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense
Division of Appellate Defense
PO Box 11589
Columbia, SC 29211-1589

ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT

This 11th day of September, 2023.

RECEIVED
May 13 2026
S.C. SUPREME COURT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

Appeal from Hampton County

Honorable Robert J. Bonds, Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

RONALD LYONS,

APPELLANT

APPELLATE CASE NO. 2022-000169

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the Record on Appeal in the above-referenced case has been served upon Mark Farthing, Esquire, at the Rembert Dennis Building, 1000 Assembly Street, Room 519, Columbia, SC 29201, this 11th day of September, 2023.

Jessica M. Saxon
Appellate Defender

South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense
Division of Appellate Defense
PO Box 11589
Columbia, S.C. 29211-1589

ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT