

EXHIBIT

E

STATES RETURN

II.

In his current Application, the Applicant alleges that he is being held in custody unlawfully for the following reasons:

1. Court lacked subject matter jurisdiction.

III.

The Respondent submits that the Applicant's allegation that the trial court lacked subject matter jurisdiction is without merit. Subject matter jurisdiction is the power of a court to hear and determine cases of the general class to which the proceedings in question belong. Dove v. Gold Kist, Inc., 314 S.C. 235, 442 S.E.2d 598 (1994). A review of the record clearly indicates that there is no basis upon which to conclude that the trial court lacked subject matter jurisdiction. Further, the Applicant's indictments are facially valid and proper. An indictment is adequate and valid on its face if the offense is stated with sufficient certainty and particularity to enable the court to know what judgment to pronounce, the defendant to know what he is called upon to answer, and acquittal or conviction to be placed in bar to any subsequent prosecution. State v. James, 472 S.E.2d 38 (S.C. 1996); State v. McIntire, 221 S.C. 504, 71 S.E.2d 410 (1952). The indictments in this case are facially valid because they contain all the necessary elements of the offenses intended to be charged, state the date of the offenses, and the name of the accused. The respondent moves for summary dismissal pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. §17-27-70 on the basis that there is no genuine issue of material fact which would necessitate an evidentiary hearing and that this allegation should be dismissed as a matter of law.

IV.

Each and every allegation contained within the application not hereinbefore either expressly admitted, qualified or explained is hereby denied.

V.

WHEREFORE, having made its Return, the State requests that an evidentiary hearing be held solely on the issue of subject matter jurisdiction.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY D. McMASTER
Attorney General

JOHN W. McINTOSH
Chief Deputy Attorney General

SALLEY W. ELLIOTT
Assistant Deputy Attorney General

LAKESHA JEFFRIES
Assistant Attorney General

By: 
ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT

Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 11549
Columbia, SC 29211
Telephone: (803) 734-3737

June 5, 2004

