



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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

Henry D. McMaster, Governor

Mark A. Keel, Chief

Tel: (803) 737-9000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 29, 2022

Contact: Renée Wunderlich

(803) 260-3020

rwunderlich@sled.sc.gov

CRIMESTOPPERS TIP LEADS TO SLED ARREST IN 2 YEAR POLICE CAR ARSON INVESTIGATION

On Monday SLED agents arrested Roland Becker, 33, for willfully and deliberately setting a Town of Pine Ridge police car on fire.

The incident occurred on July 31, 2020 at the Town of Pine Ridge Police Department in West Columbia, which is in Lexington County. The Pine Ridge Police Department requested SLED to assist in the investigation.

SLED posted surveillance video of the subject, later identified as Becker, online to help solve the case. A citizen submitted a tip to Crimestoppers earlier this month. In a SLED interview, Becker admitted to setting the fire.

Becker was already detained at the Lexington County Detention Center on unrelated charges.

The case will be prosecuted by South Carolina's Eleventh Circuit Solicitor's Office.

The arrest warrant is attached below.

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An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



ARREST WARRANT

2022A3210200831

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Lexington

THE STATE

against

Roland William Becker

Address: [Redacted] West Columbia, SC 29172-2059

Phone: [Redacted] SSN: [Redacted] Sex: M Race: W Height: 5 5 Weight: 134

DL State: SC DL #: [Redacted] DOB: [Redacted] 1988 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division Prosecuting Officer: Clint R Wells - S01672

Offense: Arson / Arson - Third Degree (effective 06-02-2010)

Offense Code: 3435 Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-11-0110(C)

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the [] County/ [] Municipality of

The accused is to be arrested and brought before me to be dealt with according to the law.

(L.S.)

Signature of Judge

Date: _____

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to defendant Roland William Becker on 3/28/2022

[Signature] Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

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

ORIGINAL

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ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Lexington

Personally appeared before me the affiant Clint R Wells who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Roland William Becker

did within this county and state on or about 7/31/2020 violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [] Municipality of Lexington)

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Arson / Arson - Third Degree (effective 06-02-2010)

I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

On July 31, 2020, Roland Becker did willfully violate South Carolina Code of Laws 16-11-110(C) (Arson 3rd Degree) by deliberately setting fire to the Town of Pine Ridge police car. The car was destroyed as a result of the defendant's actions. The incident occurred at the Town of Pine Ridge Police Department located at 2757 Fish Hatchery Road in West Columbia, South Carolina, which is in Lexington County. Surveillance video recovered from the Pine Ridge Police Department showed the defendant approach the car, pour gasoline, then ignite the flammable vapors. The defendant then fled the area in a silver car. The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division posted the surveillance video on Youtube. A citizen contacted Crimestoppers on March 24, 2022 and identified Roland Becker as the individual in the video. The affiant interviewed the defendant on March 28, 2022 and the defendant admitted to setting the fire.

Signature of Affiant

[Signature]

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Lexington

Affiant's Address P. O. Box 21398 Columbia, SC 29221- Affiant's Telephone (803)528-0798

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that

on or about 7/31/2020 defendant Roland William Becker

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

[X] County/ [] Municipality of Lexington) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Arson / Arson - Third Degree (effective 06-02-2010)

Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable

Sworn to and subscribed before me

on 3/28/2022

[Signature] Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.) Gary W. Reinhart Judge Code: 5059

Judge's Address Lexington County Judicial Center

Lexington, SC 29072-

Judge's Telephone (803)785-2594

Issuing Court: [X] Magistrate [] Municipal [] Circuit

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

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AFFIDAVIT