



Sheriff J. Al Cannon, Jr., County of Charleston, South Carolina

Charleston County Sheriff's Office
Law Enforcement Center
3691 Leeds Avenue
North Charleston, South Carolina 29405

Captain Roger Antonio
Public Information Officer
Office: (843) 554-2444
Fax: (843) 529-5344
rantonio@charlestoncounty.org

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

Drug Arrest

(North Charleston, SC) On January 28, 2018, while making a purchase at the Murphy Gas station at 8599 Rivers Avenue in North Charleston, a Charleston County Sheriff's Deputy was involved in an altercation with another customer when he noticed the customer in possession of suspected illegal drugs. The deputy, who was on his way to work and was not equipped with his duty belt (which consists of handcuffs, Taser and other equipment) attempted to subdue the subject until additional officers could arrive. The drugs were seized and the subject, later identified as Lamont Simmons, was taken to Trident Hospital and treated for minor injuries. Afterwards he was transported to the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center, where he was booked for Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine, Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine Base and Resisting Arrest. The deputy was also transported to a hospital for evaluation after possible exposure to the drugs during the struggle.

The Charleston County Sheriff's Office reviews all use of force incidents and, as a result of the review, has immediately opened an internal investigation to determine if the deputy followed proper procedure.

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