

State of South Carolina

Charleston County
101 Meeting Street, Suite 400
Charleston, SC 29401
Phone (843) 958-1900
Fax (843) 958-1905



Berkeley County
300-B California Avenue
Moncks Corner, SC 29461
Phone (843) 723-3800 ext. 4529
Fax (843) 719-4588

SCARLETT A. WILSON

Solicitor, Ninth Judicial Circuit

For Immediate Release
May 29, 2024

Contact: Ashley Kay
(843)958-1945

Berkeley County Drug Dealer Found Guilty of Drug and Gun Charges

Moncks Corner, S.C. – Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson announced that on Thursday, May 16, 2024, a Berkeley County jury convicted Malik Shaquan Hedin of Trafficking in Methamphetamine, Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine, Possession with Intent to Distribute Fentanyl, Possession with Intent to Distribute Marijuana, Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime, Possession of a Firearm or Ammunition by a Person Convicted of a Violent Offense, and Unlawful Carrying of a Handgun. Trafficking in Methamphetamine is classified as a Violent Crime. The Defendant also had a prior conviction of Burglary, Second Degree (Violent), which is also classified as a Violent Crime.

On November 24, 2021, at approximately 3:20pm, Summerville Police Department Officers were patrolling the parking lot of the Econo Lodge, located at 110 Holiday Drive in Summerville, Berkeley County, an area known for its prevalent drug activity. After observing a traffic violation and noting the vehicle's license plate was expired, the officers observed the Defendant exit the vehicle and walk onto the grassy area behind the Econo Lodge.

As officers approached the Defendant, he attempted to flee on foot towards the Econo Lodge and away from the vehicle, a struggle ensued and a civilian bystander helped Officers as they pursued and apprehended the Defendant.

As officers approached the Defendant's vehicle, they observed the odor of Marijuana emanating from the vehicle. Upon opening the front doors, Officers immediately observed a loaded Glock 30 .45 caliber handgun laying in plain view in front of the center console, with a seated magazine containing ten rounds and one round in the chamber. Sitting right next to it was \$720 in cash. In a large bag in the front passenger seat, Officers located three separate bags containing large quantities of Marijuana. More Marijuana was located in the

center console, along with a black digital scale covered in white powdery residue. Also located in the front passenger seat was a smaller black bag which contained the following: 1) a clear plastic bag containing Methamphetamine; 2) a second clear plastic bag containing Cocaine; 3) a third clear plastic bag containing 18 multi-colored Fentanyl tablets; 4) a silver digital scale; and 5) a box of sandwich bags. As Officer Wycoff was removing the contraband from the front passenger seat, he located yet another plastic bag containing more Marijuana.

During the four-day trial, Assistant Solicitors Jon Newlon and Kayla Donato presented testimony from multiple witnesses including officers from the Summerville Police Department and two expert forensic chemical analysts from SLED. Over 470 grams of drugs were introduced into evidence, including 15.35 grams of Methamphetamine, 2.47 grams of Cocaine, 2.29 grams of Fentanyl, and 450 grams of Marijuana. Assistant Solicitor Jon Newlon praised the Summerville Police Department. "Officers from the Summerville Police Department were integral to the prosecution, and ultimately to the conviction, in this case. They were heavily involved throughout the process and completed a top notch investigation. Their dedication to law enforcement and the safety of our community made it an honor and a pleasure to work with them."

Judge Deadra L. Jefferson sentenced Hedin to six (6) years in the Department of Corrections.

###