CHARLESTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE Sheriff Kristin Graziano 3691 Leeds Avenue North Charleston, SC 29405



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Sheriff's statement on capture of fugitive Michael Burham

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. – The Charleston County Sheriff's Office wishes to thank the community for submitting tips to a multi-agency law enforcement team who arrested a fugitive Wednesday near the Charleston-Berkeley county line after days of searching.

Michael Charles Burham, 34, was wanted by the FBI on a federal fugitive arrest warrant and state warrants from New York and Pennsylvania. The search in Charleston County began over the weekend after two people who had been reportedly kidnapped in Pennsylvania were released in North Charleston. Berkeley County deputies encountered Burham on Tuesday off Halfway Creek Road, but he ran and eluded capture.

Search efforts on Wednesday largely shifted to Charleston County, where Sheriff Kristin Graziano held a news briefing with the FBI and local officials before 3 p.m., urging residents to continue calling law enforcement if they noticed anything suspicious on their property – particularly pleading with people to check sheds and other outbuildings. (Full briefing: <u>https://youtu.be/L4cUxM678bs</u>)

About 3:30 p.m., authorities in Berkeley County received a report of a suspicious person near a shed behind a home off United Drive near Halfway Creek Road, just north of the Charleston County line. Federal, state and local law enforcement, including CCSO deputies, converged on the area, and K-9 teams tracked the suspect. Burham was captured without incident about 5:15 p.m.

Sheriff Graziano said: "I am grateful to all the law enforcement agencies who came together and put in hundreds of hours of hard work to get a dangerous man out of our communities. We also thank the many residents throughout the Charleston region who served as extra eyes on the streets, submitting countless tips and sightings. The news media also got the word to the public. We all came together, and our communities are safer tonight because of it."

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After questioning in Berkeley County, Burham was booked at the Al Cannon Detention Center in on the federal hold. His booking photo is below.



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