

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR
CHARLOTTE, FLORIDA CRIMINAL ACTION

WARRANT TO ARREST

STATE OF FLORIDA

vs.

MATTHEW C. ROSS

Race: White **Sex:** Male
D.O.B.: [REDACTED] **Weight:**
Height: 5-11 **Eyes:** Brown
Hair: Brown
Address: [REDACTED]

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA:

TO ALL AND SINGULAR SHERIFFS AND OTHER ARRESTING OFFICERS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

WHEREAS, John Tadlock, Florida Department of Corrections, Office of the Inspector General, has this day made oath before me, in Charlotte County, Florida, that Matthew C. Ross,

1. Between June 01, 2020 and September 30, 2020 in Charlotte County, Florida, did unlawfully introduce, take, attempt to take, or send upon the grounds of a State Correctional Institution, to-wit: Charlotte County Corrections Institute, contraband, to-wit: food and cigarettes, contrary to Florida Statute 944.47(1)(a),
2. On or about June 23, 2020 in Charlotte County, Florida, did unlawfully, while a public servant, corruptly request, solicit, accept, or agree to accept, any pecuniary or other benefit not authorized by law, for the past present, or future performance, nonperformance, or violation of any act or omission which he believed to have been, or as a public servant represented as having been, either within the official discretion of the public servant, in violation of a public duty or in performance of a public duty, contrary to Florida Statute 838.016(1),
3. On or about July 06, 2020 in Charlotte County, Florida, did unlawfully, while a public servant, corruptly request, solicit, accept, or agree to accept, any pecuniary or other benefit not authorized by law, for the past present, or future performance, nonperformance, or violation of any act or omission which he believed to have been, or as a public servant represented as having been, either within the official discretion of the public servant, in violation of a public duty or in performance of a public duty, contrary to Florida Statute 838.016(1),


4. On or about July 15, 2020 in Charlotte County, Florida, did unlawfully, while a public servant, corruptly request, solicit, accept, or agree to accept, any pecuniary or other benefit not authorized by law, for the past present, or future performance, nonperformance, or violation of any act or omission which he believed to have been, or as a public servant represented as having been, either within the official discretion of the public servant, in violation of a public duty or in performance of a public duty, contrary to Florida Statute 838.016(1),
5. On or about July 20, 2020 in Charlotte County, Florida, did unlawfully, while a public servant, corruptly request, solicit, accept, or agree to accept, any pecuniary or other benefit not authorized by law, for the past present, or future performance, nonperformance, or violation of any act or omission which he believed to have been, or as a public servant represented as having been, either within the official discretion of the public servant, in violation of a public duty or in performance of a public duty, contrary to Florida Statute 838.016(1),
6. On or about July 25, 2020 in Charlotte County, Florida, did unlawfully, while a public servant, corruptly request, solicit, accept, or agree to accept, any pecuniary or other benefit not authorized by law, for the past present, or future performance, nonperformance, or violation of any act or omission which he believed to have been, or as a public servant represented as having been, either within the official discretion of the public servant, in violation of a public duty or in performance of a public duty, contrary to Florida Statute 838.016(1),
7. On or about August 04, 2020 in Charlotte County, Florida, did unlawfully, while a public servant, corruptly request, solicit, accept, or agree to accept, any pecuniary or other benefit not authorized by law, for the past present, or future performance, nonperformance, or violation of any act or omission which he believed to have been, or as a public servant represented as having been, either within the official discretion of the public servant, in violation of a public duty or in performance of a public duty, contrary to Florida Statute 838.016(1),
8. On or about September 18, 2020 in Charlotte County, Florida, did unlawfully, while a public servant, corruptly request, solicit, accept, or agree to accept, any pecuniary or other benefit not authorized by law, for the past present, or future performance, nonperformance, or violation of any act or omission which he believed to have been, or as a public servant represented as having been, either within the official discretion of the public servant, in violation of a public duty or in performance of a public duty, contrary to Florida Statute 838.016(1),

contrary to the statute in such cases made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the STATE OF FLORIDA.

AND it appears to the Court that probable cause for the issuance of this warrant has been shown and the Court being satisfied of the existence of the grounds thereof.

CLR:rcf

NOW, THEREFORE, you are commanded forthwith to arrest the said Matthew C. Ross and bring him before me or another County or Circuit Judge with jurisdiction to be dealt with according to law.

	<input type="checkbox"/> Bond to be set by First Appearance Judge
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bond set at \$ <u>CT 1 - \$6,250; CT 2 - \$ R.O.R.; CT 6 - \$6,250;</u>
	<input type="checkbox"/> No Bond
	<input type="checkbox"/> Release on Own Recognizance

CT 7 - \$6,250; CT 8 - \$6,250

Given under my hand and seal this 21ST day of OCTOBER, 2022.



Judge, Charlotte County

CHARLOTTE COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA
STATE OF FLORIDA VS. MATTHEW C. ROSS

CHARGE(S):

- 1) Conspire - Introduction/Contraband Into Corr. Facility, F.S. 944.47(1)(a), 777.04(3) Second Degree Felony
- 2) Unlawful Compensation or Reward for Official Behavior, F.S. 838.016(1), Second Degree Felony
- 3) Unlawful Compensation or Reward for Official Behavior, F.S. 838.016(1), Second Degree Felony
- 4) Unlawful Compensation or Reward for Official Behavior, F.S. 838.016(1), Second Degree Felony
- 5) Unlawful Compensation or Reward for Official Behavior, F.S. 838.016(1), Second Degree Felony
- 6) Unlawful Compensation or Reward for Official Behavior, F.S. 838.016(1), Second Degree Felony
- 7) Unlawful Compensation or Reward for Official Behavior, F.S. 838.016(1), Second Degree Felony
- 8) Unlawful Compensation or Reward for Official Behavior, F.S. 838.016(1), Second Degree Felony

CLR:rcf

Returnable the _____ day of _____, A.D., _____.
FILED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, _____.

Received This Warrant
_____ day of _____, A.D.,
_____, and executed it on the _____
day of _____, A.D., _____,
by arresting the within-named and having him
now before the Court, _____,
_____.

FEES: Arrest..... \$ _____
Return..... _____
Committing to Jail..... _____
Mileage..... _____
Release..... _____
Approving Bond..... _____
TOTAL: \$ _____

Arresting Officer

WITNESS(ES) FOR STATE:
Florida Department of Corrections
Arresting Agency CR#: 22-02560

SAO Warrant #: 2748454

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND
FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA

CASE NO.

-vs-

AGENCY CASE NO. 22-02560

Matthew Christopher Ross

Defendant(s)

RACE/SEX: White /Male

DOB: [REDACTED]

SSN:

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

AFFIDAVIT FOR ARREST

Before me, Circuit Court Judge Scott H. Cripp, appeared an affidavit from Inspector John Tadlock, who being sworn, deposes and says:

COUNT 1: Conspiracy to Introduce Contraband into a State Institution

That Matthew Christopher Ross, a Correctional Officer at Charlotte Correctional Institution, between June 2020, and September 2020, did then and there knowingly, except through regular channels as authorized by the officer in charge of the correctional institution, provide any article of food or clothing given or transmitted, or intended to be given or transmitted, to any inmate of any state correctional institution for the purpose of providing an inmate contraband, while employed and on duty at Charlotte Correctional Institution, contrary to Florida State Statute 777.04(3)/944.47(1)(a)(2).

COUNT 2-8: Unlawful Compensation

That Matthew Christopher Ross, a Correctional Officer at Charlotte Correctional Institution, on June 23, 2020, July 6, 2020, July 15, 2020, July 20, 2020, July 25, 2020, August 4, 2020, and September 18, 2020, did then and there knowingly accept monetary compensation (*on 7 separate occasions*), via VENMO money transfer, from an inmate for the purpose of providing an inmate contraband and other unauthorized items, while employed and on duty at Charlotte Correctional Institution, contrary to Florida Statute 838.016

Your Affiant has documented his probable cause in a Complaint Affidavit attached to this document as EXHIBIT A; wherein, the above violations are further explained. Your Affiant swears that EXHIBIT A is true.

WHEREFORE, your Affiant prays that an arrest warrant be issued according to law, commanding all and singular, the Sheriffs of the State of Florida, to forthwith, arrest said Matthew Christopher Ross, and bring him before the court to answer the charge of: Conspiracy to Introduce Contraband into a state correctional institution and Unlawful Compensation.

Sworn to and subscribed before me,
the undersigned authority this
21 day of October, 2022

Ryan Crawford Muse Ryan Crawford Muse John Tadlock ID# [REDACTED]
Name/Title of person administering oath AFFIANT

ID# [REDACTED]

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 21 DAY OF October, 2022

[Signature]
JUDGE OF THE ABOVE COURT

REVIEWED
AFFIDAVIT

PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT

OBTS #		1. Arrest Affidavit 2. Notice to Appear	3. Complaint Affidavit 4. Request for Capias 5. Teen Court Referral	4	Juvenile						
ORI #	FL0037275C	Office of Inspector General - DC		Report #	22-02560						
Location of Offense: Charlotte Correctional Institution (33123 Oil Well Road, Punta Gorda, FL)			Date of Offense: 06-23-2020		Date of Arrest						
Name: Matthew Christopher Ross											
Race W - White B - Black	I - Indian American O - Oriental Asian	Race W	Sex M	DOB or Age [REDACTED]	Height 5'11"	Weight N/A	Eye Color BRN	Hair Color BRN	Complexion MED	Build MED	
Address (Street, Apt, Number)					(City)	(State)	Phone				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Parent <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Legal Custodian <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Other		Name of Parent or Custodian (Last, First, Middle)					Residence Phone				
Address (Street, Apt, Number)					(City)	(State)	Business Phone				
Notified By: (Name)			Date	Time	Juvenile Disposition 1. Handled / Processed within Dept and Released		2. Turned over to DOH/C&F 3. Incarcerated (County Jail)				
Released to: (Name)			Relationship		Date	Time					
Activity: N. N/A P. Posses	S. Sell B. Buy T. Traffic	R. Smuggle D. Deliver E. Use	K. Dispense / Distribute	M. Manufacture / Produce / Cultivate	Z. Other	Type: N. N/A A. Amphetamine	B. Barbiturate C. Cocaine E. Heroine	H. Hallucinogen M. Marijuana O. Opium / Deriv	P. Paraphernalia / Equipment S. Synthetic	U. Unknown Z. Other	
Charge Description Introduction of Contraband (Conspiracy)				Counts 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F.S. <input type="checkbox"/> Ord	State Violation Number: 777.04(3)/944.47(1)(a)(2)				Violation of Section (ORD)	
Activity S	Type Z	Amount / Unit			State Attorney Number		Court Number				
<input type="checkbox"/> PC #	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capias	<input type="checkbox"/> AC	<input type="checkbox"/> BW	<input type="checkbox"/> PW	<input type="checkbox"/> Juv. PU	<input type="checkbox"/> Citation	Date Issued	Writt. Att. #	<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Viol Inj.	<input type="checkbox"/> Order of Arrest	
Charge Description Unlawful Compensation				Counts 7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F.S. <input type="checkbox"/> Ord	State Violation Number: 838.016				Violation of Section (ORD)	
Activity S	Drug Type Z	Amount / Unit			State Attorney Number		Court Number				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PC #	<input type="checkbox"/> Capias	<input type="checkbox"/> AC	<input type="checkbox"/> BW	<input type="checkbox"/> PW	<input type="checkbox"/> Juv. PU	<input type="checkbox"/> Citation	Date Issued	Writt. Att. #	<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Viol Inj.	<input type="checkbox"/> Order of Arrest	

The Undersigned Certifies and swears that he/she has just and reasonable grounds to believe, and does believe that the above-named Defendant committed the following Violation of the law:
On the 19th day of October 2022 at 09:37 AM. PM (Specially include facts constituting cause for arrest):

Your Affiant is Inspector John Tadlock with the Office of Inspector General for the Florida Department of Corrections. The Defendant is Correctional Officer Sergeant Matthew Christopher Ross (*Sergeant Ross*), who is currently employed by the FDC at Charlotte Correctional Institution (CCI). Your Affiant has investigated a Conspiracy to Introduce of Contraband and Unlawful Compensation case alleging Sergeant Ross conspired to receive financial gain from Inmate Nathan Carswell (*Inmate Carswell*) DC# 966750 for the introduction of food and cigarettes into the secure perimeter of CCI.


Inmate Carswell testified that Sergeant Ross conspired with Inmate Carswell to introduce food and cigarettes into the secure perimeter of CCI, and in return Sergeant Ross was being compensated via money transfers through VENMO, a mobile payment service. Inmate Carswell would transfer the monies from his VENMO account (B-Boy/Buck239Town@gmail.com) to Sergeant Ross' VENMO account (Mross220/m.ross220@gmail.com) and would receive the contraband items from Sergeant Ross after the payment was made.

Subpoenaed VENMO records revealed Inmate Carswell transferred money to Sergeant Ross for the aforementioned items. There were seven (7) transactions made for a total of \$835.00 transferred to Sergeant Ross' VENMO account from Inmate Carswell's VENMO account. The first transaction was made on June 23, 2020, for \$100 with a notation for food, the second was made on July 6, 2020, for \$100 with a notation for food, the third was made on July 15, 2020, for \$100 with a notation for food, the fourth was made on July 20, 2020, for \$160 with a notation for food, the fifth was made on July 25, 2020, for \$125 with a notation for hygiene products, the sixth was made on August 4, 2020, for \$150 with a notation for food, and the seventh was made on September 18, 2020, for \$100 with a notation for fantasy football.

These transactions were sent to Sergeant Ross while Inmate Carswell was housed at CCI which is where Sergeant Ross was and still assigned at the time. The VENMO transactions had notes indicating the money was being sent for food (5x), hygiene products(1x), and fantasy football (1x).

Your Affiant respectfully submits probable cause has been established indicating Correctional Officer Sergeant Matthew Christopher Ross did commit one (1) count of Conspiracy to Introduce of Contraband in violation of Florida State Statute 777.04(3)/944.47(1)(a)(2) and seven (7) counts of Unlawful Compensation in violation of Florida State Statute 838.016 in Charlotte County, Charlotte Correctional Institution, from June 23, 2020, through September 18, 2020. Your Affiant respectfully requests a warrant be issued for Matthew Christopher Ross for one (1) count of Florida State Statute 777.04(3)/944.47(1)(a)(2), Conspiracy to Introduce of Contraband and seven (7) counts of Florida State Statute 838.016, Unlawful Compensation.

All supporting documents will be available for review and will be further explained in your Affiant's report of investigation.

PC. Exists for Charge(s)			Judge's Signature			Date		
<input type="checkbox"/> Miranda Warnings	Hold for Agency Name:	Verified By:	Date:			Bond Charge #	Bond Charge #	Bond Charge #
Adults Only Hold for First Appearance <input type="checkbox"/> Do not Bond Out Reason:			Bond Type 1. ROR 2. Cash	3. Surety 4. Bail / Bond	5. Cert 6. Other	Type	Type	Type
I swear/Affirm the above and attached statements are true and correct		Sworn to and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority this 19 day of October 2022	Returnable Court Date			Returnable Court Time <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM		
Inspector's / Complainant's Signature		Name/Title of Person Authorized to Administer Oath INSPECTOR SUPERVISOR JAROD BEWLEY	Release Date			Release Time		<input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM
Name (Printed) John Tadlock ID# 114721			Releasing Officer					Page 2 of 2