

PRESS RELEASE
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**FIREARM POSSESSION VIOLATIONS ARE THE MOST FREQUENTLY
OCCURRING CHARGE AT THE SHERIFF AL CANNON DETENTION CENTER FOR
THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW**

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. The Charleston County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) released a report today showing unlawful carrying of a weapon is the most recurring charge in the 18 and older population at the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center (SACDC). “We are examining the latest jail data to improve public safety in Charleston County. Next, we need to understand how the Unlawful Carry charge is used and explore the next steps, such as firearm possession education or exploring the underlying causes of why firearms are being unlawfully possessed”, said Lea Ann Adkins, CJCC Co-Vice Chair, and legal coordinator at One80 Place.

Report findings of note include:

- *Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon* is the top recurring charge.
- In the SACDC, firearm possession violations led as the most frequently occurring charge in 2022 and 2023, and as the second most frequently occurring charge in 2020 and 2019.
- From January through October 2023, 742 individuals were booked into the SACDC with the *Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon* charge.
- Of those booked into the SACDC with the *Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon* charge, 90-92% are men and 88-91% are Black.
- *Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon* is the most frequent charge for those 34 years old and younger.

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About the Charleston County CJCC

The mission of the CJCC is to assist in making sustainable, data-driven improvements to Charleston County’s criminal justice system and thereby improve public safety and community well-being. The CJCC is currently jointly funded by Charleston County and a Safety + Justice Challenge grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Learn more by visiting

www.cjcc.charlestoncounty.org and follow the CJCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn.

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