



# South Carolina

## STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

P.O. Box 21398  
Columbia, South Carolina  
29221-1398

*Henry D. McMaster, Governor*

*Mark A. Keel, Chief*

WWW.SLED.SC.GOV

(803) 737-9000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 11, 2025

Renée Wunderlich  
Director of Public Information

### **SLED CHARGES FORMER SALUDA COUNTY EMPLOYEE WITH BREACH OF TRUST AND MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE**

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Kayla Leigh Berry, 31, with Breach of Trust with Fraudulent Intent valued more than \$2,000 but less than \$10,000 and Misconduct in Office on Monday, March 10, 2025. The charges stem from when she was acting in her official capacity as an employee of the Saluda County Tax Auditor's Office. The SLED investigation was requested by the Saluda County Sheriff's Office.

Details can be found in the attached warrants.

Berry was booked into the Saluda County Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Solicitor's Office.

###

SLED news releases are published on SLED's website: [www.sled.sc.gov](http://www.sled.sc.gov)  
For media inquiries, please email SLED's Public Information Office: [pio@sled.sc.gov](mailto:pio@sled.sc.gov)



*An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*



ARREST WARRANT

2025A4110100036

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Saluda

THE STATE 32240090 against

Kayla Leigh Berry

Address: Batesburg, SC 29006-8530

Sex: F Race: W Height: 5 10 Weight: 123 DL State: SC DOB: 1993 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division Prosecuting Officer: Richard J Cullop - S00499 Offense: Breach / Breach of trust with fraudulent intent, value more than \$2,000 but less than \$10,000

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the County/ Municipality of The accused is to be arrested and brought before me to be dealt with according to the law.

(L.S.)

Signature of Judge

Date:

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to defendant Kayla Berry on March 10, 2025

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions 100 East Church Street, Suite 6 Saluda, SC 29138

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Saluda

Personally appeared before me the affiant Richard J Cullop who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Kayla Leigh Berry did within this county and state on or about 10/31/2023 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Saluda) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Breach / Breach of trust with fraudulent intent, value more than \$2.000 but less than \$10.000

I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

That on October 31, 2023, in the city/county of Saluda, one Kayla Leigh Smith did commit the crime of Breach / Breach of trust with fraudulent intent, value more than \$2.000 but less than \$10.000 in that he/she did See attache Affidavit

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Saluda

Affiant's Address P. O. Box 21398 Columbia, SC 29221- Affiant's Telephone

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that

on or about 10/31/2023 defendant Kayla Leigh Berry did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Saluda) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Breach / Breach of trust with fraudulent intent, value more than \$2.000 but less than \$10.000

Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable Sworn to and subscribed before me

on 3/ 3/2025 Signature of Issuing Judge William Robin Freeman Judge Code: 7434 (L.S.)

Judge's Address 108 South Rudolph Street Saluda, SC 29138- Judge's Telephone (864)445-4500

Issuing Court: Magistrate Municipal Circuit

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Form Approved by S.C. Attorney General April 21, 2003 SCCA 518 ORIGINAL

AFFIDAVIT

**SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION  
WARRANT AFFIDAVIT**

**SUSPECT INFORMATION**

NAME OF SUSPECT: Kayla Leigh Berry

AKA'S OF SUSPECT:

ADDRESS OF SUSPECT: [REDACTED]

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Saluda, SC 29138

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

RACE: W      SEX: F      HGT: 5'11      EYES: Blue      HAIR: Blonde      CMPL:

SCARS, MARKS, TATTOOS :      OTHER IDENTIFYING INFO:

DOB: [REDACTED] 1993

SSN:

DL # [REDACTED]

**VIOLATION**

STATUTE: 16-13-0230

OFFENSE: Breach of Trust with fraudulent intent value more than  
\$2,000.00 but less than \$10,000.00

CDR Code: 3423

**PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT**

State of South Carolina

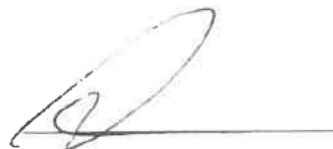
County of Saluda

Personally appeared before me, the affiant Special Agent Richard Cullop who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Kayla Berry did within this county and state on or about October 31, 2023 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina in the following particulars:

Breach of Trust with fraudulent intent value more than \$2,000.00 but less than \$10,000.00

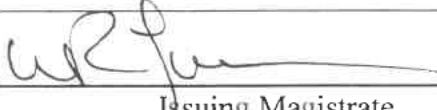
I further state that there is probable cause to believe the defendant named above did commit the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

From March 2021 through November 2023, while acting in her official capacity as an employee of the Saluda County Tax Auditor's Office, Kayla Berry committed malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance of her official duties while at 100 East Church Street, Saluda, SC, in Saluda County. Berry inappropriately adjusted tax bills for her family and friends by providing discounts without proper documentation, erroring out bills, or changing the value of the vehicles. The adjustments caused a loss of revenue to Saluda County of approximately \$6,081.40. Berry had her own unique log in to the tax bill system that logged and identified the changes she made. The adjustments were made while Berry was working which was substantiated by her timecards, and Berry handled other tax bills of Saluda County residents with the same vehicles and did not provide the same adjustments.



Special Agent

**SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION  
WARRANT AFFIDAVIT**

Special Agent: Richard Cullop	Sworn to and subscribed before me this
Office Address: P.O. Box 21398 Columbia, SC 29221	3 day of <del>March</del> , 20 25
Telephone: 803-896-7250	
Date of Request:	Issuing Magistrate

ARREST WARRANT

2025A4110100037

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Saluda

THE STATE against

Kayla Leigh Berry

Address: Batesburg, SC 29006-8530

Sex: F Race: W Height: 5 10 Weight: 123

DL State: SC DL #: DOB: 1993 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division
Prosecuting Officer: Richard J Cullop - S00499

Offense: Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance

Offense Code: 0819
Code/Ordinance Sec: 17-25-0030

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the County/ Municipality of

The accused is to be arrested and brought before me to be dealt with according to the law.

(L.S.)

Signature of Judge

Date:

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to defendant Kayla Berry on March 10, 2025

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
100 East Church Street, Suite 6
Saluda, SC 29138

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Saluda

Personally appeared before me the affiant Richard J Cullop who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Kayla Leigh Berry did within this county and state on or about 10/31/2023 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Saluda) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance

I further state that there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

That on October 31, 2023, in the county of Saluda, one Kayla Leigh Smith did commit the crime of Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in that he/she did See attached Affidavit

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Saluda

Affiant's Address P. O. Box 21398
Columbia, SC 29221-

Affiant's Telephone

ARREST WARRANT

TO ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THIS STATE OR MUNICIPALITY OR ANY CONSTABLE OF THIS COUNTY:

It appearing from the above affidavit that there are reasonable grounds to believe that

on or about 10/31/2023 defendant Kayla Leigh Berry

did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Saluda) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Misconduct / Misconduct in office, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance

Having found probable cause and the above affiant having sworn before me, you are empowered and directed to arrest the said defendant and bring him or her before me forthwith to be dealt with according to law. A copy of this Arrest Warrant shall be delivered to the defendant at the time of its execution, or as soon thereafter as is practicable

Sworn to and subscribed before me on 3/3/2025

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.)
William Robin Freeman
Judge Code: 7434

Judge's Address 108 South Rudolph Street

Saluda, SC 29138-

Judge's Telephone (864)445-4500

Issuing Court: [X] Magistrate [ ] Municipal [ ] Circuit

ORIGINAL

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Form Approved by S.C. Attorney General April 21, 2003 SCCA 518 ORIGINAL

AFFIDAVIT

**SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION  
WARRANT AFFIDAVIT**

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AKA'S OF SUSPECT:

ADDRESS OF SUSPECT: [REDACTED]

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Saluda, SC 29138

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

RACE: W      SEX: F      HGT: 5'11      EYES: Blue      HAIR: Blonde      CMPL:

SCARS, MARKS, TATTOOS :

OTHER IDENTIFYING INFO:

DOB: [REDACTED] 1993

SSN:

DL [REDACTED]

**VIOLATION**

STATUTE: Common Law

OFFENSE: Common Law Misconduct in Office

CDR Code: 819

**PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT**

State of South Carolina

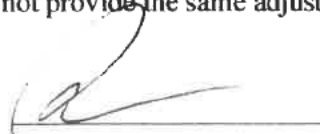
County of Saluda

Personally appeared before me, the affiant Special Agent Richard Cullop who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Kayla Berry did within this county and state on or about October 31, 2023 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina in the following particulars:

Common Law Misconduct in Office

I further state that there is probable cause to believe the defendant named above did commit the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts:

From March 2021 through November 2023, while acting in her official capacity as an employee of the Saluda County Tax Auditor's Office, Kayla Berry committed malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance of her official duties while at 100 East Church Street, Saluda, SC, in Saluda County. Berry inappropriately adjusted tax bills for her family and friends by providing discounts without proper documentation, erroring out bills, or changing the value of the vehicles. The loss to Saluda County was approximately \$6,081.40. Berry had her own unique log in to the tax bill system that logged and identified the changes she made. The adjustments were made while Berry was working which was substantiated by her timecards, and Berry handled other tax bills of Saluda County residents with the same vehicles and did not provide the same adjustments.




Special Agent

Special Agent: Richard Cullop

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

**SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION  
WARRANT AFFIDAVIT**

Office Address: P.O. Box 21398 Columbia, SC 29221	3 day of <del>MARCH</del> 20 25
Telephone: 803-896-7250	
Date of Request:	Issuing Magistrate