



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
July 15, 2025

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information

SLED CHARGES SUMTER COUNTY MAN WITH FORGERY AND FRAUD

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Banito Reyes, 62, with two counts of Forgery - value \$10,000 or more, False Statement and Misrepresentation - 1st Offense, and Obtaining Signature or Property Under False Pretenses - value \$10,000 or more on Sunday, July 13, 2025. The South Carolina Department of Insurance requested the SLED investigation.

Details can be found in the attached warrants.

Reyes was booked into the Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the South Carolina Department of Insurance.

###

SLED news releases are published on SLED's website: www.sled.sc.gov
For media inquiries, please email SLED's Public Information Office: pio@sled.sc.gov

ARREST WARRANT

2025A4310100708

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

THE STATE

61-24-0074

against

Banito Reyes

Address:

Sumter, SC 29154-

Phone: [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED]

Sex: M Race: H Height: 5 7 Weight: 175

DL State: SC DL #: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED] 1962 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Michael S Gifford - S00484

Offense: Forgery / Forgery, value \$10,000 or more

Offense Code: 3437

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-13-0010(A)

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 Banito Reyeson 7-13-2025Michael S. Gifford
Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
215 N. Harvin St.
Sumter, SC 29150

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

Personally appeared before me the affiant Michael S Giffordbeing duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Banito Reyesdid within this county and state on or about 12/ 1/2022

violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Sumter)

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Forgery / Forgery, value \$10,000 or more

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:

Between December 1, 2022, and March 21, 2023, in Sumter County South Carolina (SC), Banito Reyes falsely made writings and uttered them as true writings to wit: Reyes falsified material underwriting information and personal identifying information to incept more than 130 fraudulent insurance policies while employed as a licensed insurance producer with [REDACTED]. Reyes used telephone numbers, email addresses, and/or birthdates that did not belong to the customer and/or without the customer's consent. As a result of incepting the fraudulent policies, Reyes received a personal bonus compensation totaling \$50,375. The premiums for the fraudulent insurance policies totaled over \$67,000. At the time Reyes incepted the fraudulent policies, he was a licensed insurance producer with the South Carolina Department of Insurance. This Affiant presents these facts based on witness statements; electronic communication records; and electronic records.

Signature of Affiant

Michael S. Gifford

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

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 12/ 1/2022 defendant Banito Reyes

did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Sumter

) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Forgery / Forgery, value \$10,000 or more

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 7/ 8/2025Roger Richardson
Signature of Issuing Judge

Roger Richardson

Judge Code: 7511

(L.S.)

Judge's Address Post Office Box 1428
Sumter, SC 29151-Judge's Telephone (803)436-2280Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

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

ARREST WARRANT

2025A4310100711

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

THE STATE

61-24-0074

against

Banito Reyes

Address:

Sumter, SC 29154-

Phone

SSN

Sex: M Race: H Height: 5 7 Weight: 175

DL State: SC DL #:

DOB: 1962 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Michael S Gifford - S00484

Offense: Forgery / Forgery, value \$10,000 or more

Offense Code: 3437

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-13-0010(A)

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 Banito Reyes

on 7-13-2025

Michael S. Gifford

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
215 N. Harvin St.
Sumter, SC 29150

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

Personally appeared before me the affiant Michael S Gifford

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Banito Reyes

did within this county and state on or about 3/30/2022

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Forgery / Forgery, value \$10,000 or more

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:

Between March 30, 2022, and January 4, 2024, in Sumter County South Carolina (SC), Banito Reyes falsely made writings and uttered them as true writings to wit: Reyes falsely represented himself to customers as an insurance producer for the following insurance companies: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. However, Reyes was not authorized to sell insurance policies for any of these companies. Reyes used the companies' direct consumer website to incept approximately 110 fraudulent insurance policies by falsifying material underwriting information and personal identifying information. Reyes also utilized false payment sources to incept the policies totaling more than \$18,000. This Affiant presents these facts based on witness statements; electronic communication records; and electronic records.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

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 3/30/2022

defendant Banito Reyes

did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Sumter

) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Forgery / Forgery, value \$10,000 or more

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 7/8/2025

Roger Richardson

Signature of Issuing Judge
Roger Richardson

Judge Code: 7511

(L.S.)

Judge's Address Post Office Box 1428

Sumter, SC 29151-

Judge's Telephone (803)436-2280

Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate☐ Municipal☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

Notary Public for
S.C. Attorney General
April 21, 2003
SCCA 518

ARREST WARRANT

2025A4310100709

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

THE STATE

61-24-0074

against

Banito Reyes

Address:

Sumter, SC 29154-

Phone: [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED]

Sex: M Race: H Height: 5 7 Weight: 175

DL State: SC DL #: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED] 1962 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Michael S Gifford - S00484

Offense: Insurance / False statement, misrep., or assisting, abetting, soliciting, or conspiring - 1st offense,

Offense Code: 3552

Code/Ordinance Sec: 38-55-0540(A)

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 Banito Reyeson 7-13-2025Michael S. Gifford

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
215 N. Harvin St.
Sumter, SC 29150

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

Personally appeared before me the affiant Michael S Gifford whobeing duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Banito Reyesdid within this county and state on or about 12/1/2022 violate the criminal laws of theState of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Sumter)

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Insurance / False statement, misrep., or assisting, abetting, soliciting, or conspiring - 1st offense,
\$10,000 or more but less than \$50,000

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:

Between December 1, 2022, and March 21, 2023, in Sumter County South Carolina (SC), Banito Reyes knowingly made false statements and misrepresentations with an intent to defraud to wit: Reyes falsified material underwriting information and personal identifying information to incept more than 130 fraudulent insurance policies while employed as a licensed insurance producer with [REDACTED]. Reyes used telephone numbers, email addresses, and/or birthdates that did not belong to the customer and/or without the customer's consent. As a result of incepting the fraudulent policies, Reyes received a personal bonus compensation totaling \$50,375. At the time Reyes incepted the fraudulent policies, he was a licensed insurance producer with the South Carolina Department of Insurance. This Affiant presents these facts based on witness statements; electronic communication records; and electronic records.

Signature of Affiant

Michael S. Gifford

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

Affiant's Address P. O. Box 21398Columbia, 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 12/1/2022 defendant Banito Reyes

did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Sumter) as set forth below:DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Insurance / False statement, misrep., or assisting, abetting, soliciting, or conspiring - 1st offense,
\$10,000 or more but less than \$50,000

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 7/8/2025Roger Richardson

Roger Richardson

Judge Code: 7511

(L.S.)

Judge's Address Post Office Box 1428Sumter, SC 29151-Judge's Telephone (803)436-2280Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

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

ORIGINAL

AFFIDAVIT

ARREST WARRANT

2025A4310100710

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

THE STATE

61-24-0074

against

Banito Reyes

Address:

Sumter, SC 29154-

Phone: [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED]

Sex: M Race: H Height: 5 7 Weight: 175

DL State: SC DL #: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED] 1962 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Michael S Gifford - S00484

Offense: Breach / Obtain signature or prop. under false pretenses, value \$10,000 or more

Offense Code: 3471

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-13-0240

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 Banito Reyeson 7-13-2025Michael S. Gifford

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
215 N. Harvin St.
Sumter, SC 29150

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

Form Approved by
S.C. Attorney General
April 21, 2003
SCCA 518Personally appeared before me the affiant Michael S Gifford whobeing duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Banito Reyesdid within this county and state on or about 12/ 1/2022 violate the criminal laws of theState of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Sumter)

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Breach / Obtain signature or prop. under false pretenses, value \$10,000 or more

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:

Between December 1, 2022, and March 21, 2023, in Sumter County South Carolina (SC). Banito Reyes by false representation obtained the signature of a person to a written instrument with intent to defraud the person of that property to wit: Reyes falsified material underwriting information and personal identifying information to incept more than 130 fraudulent insurance policies while employed as a licensed insurance producer with [REDACTED]. All the policies eventually terminated, leaving the customer without an insurance policy. Reyes used telephone numbers, email addresses, and/or birthdates that did not belong to the customer and/or without the customer's consent. As a result, Reyes received a personal bonus compensation totaling \$50,375. This Affiant presents these facts based on witness statements; electronic communication records; and electronic records.

Signature of Affiant

Michael S. Gifford

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

Affiant's Address P. O. Box 21398Columbia, 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 12/ 1/2022 defendant Banito Reyes

did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Sumter) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Breach / Obtain signature or prop. under false pretenses, value \$10,000 or more

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 7/ 8/2025Roger Richardson

Signature of Issuing Judge

Roger Richardson

Judge Code: 7511Judge's Address Post Office Box 1428Sumter, SC 29151-Judge's Telephone (803)436-2280Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL