



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
September 30, 2026

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information

SLED CHARGES FORMER CALHOUN COUNTY MAGISTRATE CLERK WITH VIOLATION OF ETHICS, FAILURE TO PAY OVER FINES AND MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Jessica Miranda Darnell, 30, with Violation of Ethics, Failure of Clerk to Pay Over Fines, and Misconduct in Office on Tuesday, September 29, 2026. The Calhoun County Magistrate's Office requested the SLED investigation. The Calhoun County Sheriff's Office assisted in the SLED investigation.

Details can be found in the attached warrants.

Darnell was booked into the Orangeburg County Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the 1st Circuit Solicitor's Office.

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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

2026A0910100218

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Calhoun

THE STATE

against

Jessica Miranda Darnell

Address:

Ellore, SC 29047-8536

Phone: SSN: Sex: F Race: W Height: 5 6 Weight: 185

DL State: SC DL #: DOB: /1995 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: James C Auld - S00587

Offense: Ethics / Violation of ethics, government accountability and campaign reform Chapter 13,

Offense Code: 0673

Code/Ordinance Sec: 08-13-0310

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

on

RETURN WARRANT TO:

St. Matthews Magistrate
2833 Old Belleville Road / P O Box 196
St. Matthews, SC 29135

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Calhoun

Personally appeared before me the affiant James C Auld

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Jessica Miranda Darnell

did within this county and state on or about 6/3/2026

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

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Ethics / Violation of ethics, government accountability and campaign reform Chapter 13, Tile 8, public officers and employees

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 June 3, 2026, in the County of Calhoun, one Jessica Miranda Darnell, the Clerk of Court with Calhoun County Magistrates Office, did knowingly use her public office imposed upon her by law to obtain an economic interest for herself when she stole \$150.00 in traffic fines paid by the offender. Darnell did this with the intent to permanently deprive the Calhoun County Magistrate's Office of the funds. All in violation of the S.C Code of Laws 8-13-700(A), and such conduct not having been authorized by law. Against the peace and dignity of this state and contrary to the law in such cases made and provided.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Calhoun

Affiant's Address P. O. Box 21398

Columbia, SC 29221-

Affiant's Telephone (803)896-7250

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 6/3/2026

defendant Jessica Miranda Darnell

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

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Calhoun

) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Ethics / Violation of ethics, government accountability and campaign reform Chapter 13, Tile 8, public officers and employees

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 6/22/2026

Signature of Issuing Judge
Derrick F. Dash

Judge Code: 5909

(L.S.)

Judge's Address Post Office Box 436

Ellore, SC 29047

Judge's Telephone (843)897-4626

Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

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

ARREST WARRANT

2026A0910100219

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Calhoun

THE STATE

against

Jessica Miranda Darnell

Address:

Elloree, SC 29047-8536

Phone: _____ SSN: _____

Sex: F Race: W Height: 5 6 Weight: 185DL State: SC DL #: _____DOB: 1995 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement DivisionProsecuting Officer: James C Auld - S00587Offense: Public / Failure of clerk, sheriff, or magistrate to pay over finesOffense Code: 1092Code/Ordinance Sec: 08-01-0040This 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 Jessica Darnellon 9.29.26

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

St. Matthews Magistrate
2833 Old Belleville Road / P O Box 196
St. Matthews, SC 29135

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Calhoun

Personally appeared before me the affiant James C Auld whobeing duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Jessica Miranda Darnelldid within this county and state on or about 6/3/2026 violate the criminal laws of theState of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Calhoun)

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Public / Failure of clerk, sheriff, or magistrate to pay over fines

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 June 3, 2026, in the county of Calhoun, one Jessica Miranda Darnell the Clerk of Court with Calhoun County Magistrates Office, did knowingly and willfully refuse to immediately pay over, as required, \$150.00 in traffic fines that she collected from the offender. Darnell did this with the intent to permanently deprive the Calhoun County Magistrate's Office of the funds. All in violation of the S.C Code of Laws 8-1-40, and such conduct not having been authorized by law. Against the peace and dignity of this state and contrary to the law in such cases made and provided.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Calhoun

Affiant's Address P. O. Box 21398
Columbia, SC 29221-Affiant's Telephone (803)896-7250

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 6/3/2026 defendant Jessica Miranda Darnell

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

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Calhoun) as set forth below:DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Public / Failure of clerk, sheriff, or magistrate to pay over fines

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 9/22/2026Signature of Issuing Judge
Derrick F. Dash (L.S.)Judge Code: 5909Judge's Address Post Office Box 436
Elloree, SC 29047Judge's Telephone (843)897-4626Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

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Form Approved by
S.C. Attorney General
April 21, 2003
SCCA 618

ARREST WARRANT

2026A0910100220

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Calhoun

THE STATE

against

Jessica Miranda Darnell

Address:

Elloree, SC 29047-8536

Phone: SSN:
 Sex: F Race: W Height: 5 6 Weight: 185DL State: SC DL #:
 DOB: 1995 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: James C Auld - S00587

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 Jessica Darnell on 9-28-26

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

St. Matthews Magistrate
2833 Old Belleville Road / P O Box 196
St. Matthews, SC 29135

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Calhoun

Personally appeared before me the affiant James C Auld

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Jessica Miranda Darnell

did within this county and state on or about 6/3/2026

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

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 June 3, 2026, in the County of Calhoun, one Jessica Miranda Darnell, the Clerk of Court with Calhoun County Magistrates Office, did willfully fail to properly and faithfully discharge the duties of her public office imposed upon her by law when she intentionally stole \$150.00 in traffic ticket fines once they were paid by the offender. Darnell did this with the intent to permanently deprive the Calhoun County Magistrate's Office of the funds. Therefore, Darnell did, by malfeasance, misfeasance, and nonfeasance commit the acts and omission in breach of her duty of good faith, honesty and accountability to the public. All in violation of the Common Law of South Carolina, and such conduct not having been authorized by law. Against the peace and dignity of this state and contrary to the law in such cases made and provided.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Calhoun

Affiant's Address P. O. Box 21398

Columbia, SC 29221-

Affiant's Telephone (803)896-7250

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 6/3/2026 defendant Jessica Miranda Darnell

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

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Calhoun) 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 9/22/2026

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.)
Derrick F. Dash 9-22-26

Judge Code: 5909

Judge's Address Post Office Box 436

Elloree, SC 29047

Judge's Telephone (843)897-4626

Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

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Form Approved by
S.C. Attorney General
April 21, 2003
SCCA 618