



South Carolina

STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Henry D. McMaster, Governor

Mark A. Keel, Chief

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

WWW.SLED.SC.GOV

(803) 737-9000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 6, 2026

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information

SLED CHARGES FORMER NINTH CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE LEGAL ASSISTANT WITH IMPERSONATING A LAWYER

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Lashonda Charlen Ravenell, 37, with Impersonating a Lawyer on Monday, October 5, 2026. The 9th Circuit Solicitor's Office requested the SLED investigation.

Details can be found in the attached warrant.

Ravenell was booked into the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center in Charleston County.

The case will be prosecuted by the 9th 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



An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



ARREST WARRANT

2026A1010206929

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Charleston

THE STATE

against

Lashonda Charlen Ravenell

Address:

Cross, SC 29436-3076

Phone: _____ SSN: _____

Sex: F Race: B Height: 5 6 Weight: 145

DL State: SC DL #: _____

DOB: 1989 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Jeb R Fay - S03001

Offense: Law / Misrepresentation of being a lawyer to solicit business, obtain anything of value, or provide legal

Offense Code: 3865

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-17-0770

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 LASHONDA RAVENELL

on 10/5/26 0930

F. PENNELL

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
Charleston County Judicial Center
100 Broad Street, Suite 106
Charleston, SC 29401

ORIGINAL

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ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Charleston

Personally appeared before me the affiant Jeb R Fay who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Lashonda Charlen Ravenell

did within this county and state on or about 2/4/2026 violate the criminal laws of the

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

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Law / Misrepresentation of being a lawyer to solicit business, obtain anything of value, or provide legal advice - 1st offense

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:

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Charleston

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 2/4/2026 defendant Lashonda Charlen Ravenell

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

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

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Law / Misrepresentation of being a lawyer to solicit business, obtain anything of value, or provide legal advice - 1st offense

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 10/1/2026

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.)

Joanna Elizabeth Summey Hayes

Judge Code: 7259

Judge's Address 3831 Leeds Avenue, Suite 100

North Charleston, SC 29405-

Judge's Telephone (843)745-2390

Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

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

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF Charleston

AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me, a magistrate of this county, one Special Agent Jeb Fay of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) who first being duly sworn, deposes and says that **Lashonda Charlen Ravenell** (DOB: [REDACTED]/1989) (SCDL: [REDACTED]) did within this county and state on or about February 4, 2026, violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE

Impersonating a Lawyer 16-17-770

The affiant states there is probable cause to believe that the defendant named above did commit the crime(s) set forth, and that such probable cause is based upon the following facts:

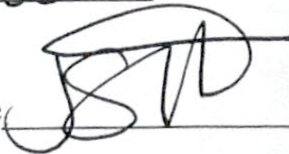
That on February 4, 2026, the defendant Lashonda Charlen Ravenell; did willingly, knowingly, and feloniously violate S.C. statute of *Impersonating a Lawyer* with malice aforethought, while in the county of Charleston, SC, in the following particulars:

On September 11, 2025, the defendant was involved in a three-vehicle traffic collision on Interstate 26 in Charleston County, which resulted in the defendant receiving a civil settlement from the other involved party's insurance company. On February 4, 2026, the defendant sent a letter to [REDACTED], who was the owner of the at fault vehicle in the collision, from the Ninth Circuit Public Defender's Office, which is located at 101 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC. Ravenell demanded an additional \$8,180 for her damages. During this time, the defendant was employed as a legal assistant by the Ninth Circuit Public Defender's Office. The defendant represented herself as a lawyer to [REDACTED], by signing the letter as "Lashonda Ravenell Senior Assistant Public Defender". The defendant also utilized the Public Defenders letter head on the demand letter, as well as on the envelope. According to the South Carolina Bar Association, the defendant is not licensed to practice law in the State of South Carolina.

The above facts are true and believable based on witness statements in the case and the investigation conducted by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division.

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 1 day of OCT, 2026

Signature of Judge



Affiant

104 Simmons Street
Walterboro, S.C. 29488
(843) 782-3822