



South Carolina

STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Henry D. McMaster, Governor

Mark A. Keel, Chief

P.O. Box 21398
Columbia, South Carolina
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 21, 2026

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information

SLED CHARGES HAMPTON COUNTY MAN WITH HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Clifton James Jr., 71, with Trafficking in Persons – Victim Under 18 Years of Age – First Offense on Thursday, October 15, 2026. The Hampton County Sheriff's Office requested the SLED investigation.

Details can be found in the attached warrant.

Clifton Jr. was booked into the Hampton County Detention Center.

This case will be prosecuted by the 14th 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

2026A2510100134

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

THE STATE

2026-04601

against

Clifton James, Jr

Address:

Hampton, SC 29924-3055

Phone: SSN:

Sex: M Race: Height: 6 Weight: 210

DL State: SC DL #:

DOB: 1955 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Logan B Fey - S00527

Offense: Trafficking / Trafficking in Persons, Victim under 18 YOA - 1st Offense

Offense Code: 3899

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-03-2020(C)

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 15-2026 1305

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
1 Courthouse Square Elm St
P O Box 7
Hampton, SC 29924

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ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

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

Personally appeared before me the affiant Logan B Fey who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Clifton James, Jr did within this county and state on or about 7/1/2026 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Trafficking / Trafficking in Persons, Victim under 18 YOA - 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:

See Attach

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality ofAffiant'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 7/1/2026 defendant Clifton James, Jr

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

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Trafficking / Trafficking in Persons, Victim under 18 YOA - 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 10/14/2026

Judge's Address P. O. Box 1299
Varnville, SC 29944-

Judge's Telephone (843)914-2230

Signature of Issuing Judge

Tonja P. Alexander

Judge Code: 7387

Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF HAMPTON

WARRANT AFFIDAVIT

DEFENDANT:

NAME: Clifton James Jr.

DOB: [REDACTED] 1955 RACE: Black SEX: Male SSN: [REDACTED]

HEIGHT: 6'01" WEIGHT: 210 HAIR: Bald EYES: Brown DL: [REDACTED]

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] Hampton, SC 29924

Personally appeared before me the affiant, SS/A Logan Fey, whom being duly sworn and says that defendant: **Clifton James Jr.** did within this County and State on or about the dates of **July 1 – July 20, 2026**, violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Trafficking in Persons, Victim Under 18 YOA – 1st (CDR 3899)
CODE SECTION: 16-03-2020 (C)

PROBABLE CAUSE:

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:

On or about July 1st through July 20th, 2026, the defendant, Clifton James Jr., did: recruit, entice, solicit, isolate, harbor, transport, provide, obtain, or so attempt, a victim, knowing that the victim would be subjected to, or for the purposes of, sex trafficking, forced labor or services, or for the purposes of performing commercial sexual acts for compensation.

That the defendant, did know that the victim was under the age of eighteen, was a runaway, and continued to subject the victim to human sex trafficking by obtaining sexual services on at least two occasions where he provided the victim monetary compensation and housing in exchange. That the defendant provided a video-recorded voluntary consent statement to an agent of this State and officers employed by the Hampton Police Department and that he had paid the victim for sexual acts on two occasions.

That these incidents occurred at [REDACTED] Hampton, SC 29924, which is located in the county of Hampton. All the above is believed to be true based upon the investigation of SS/A Fey of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division and the Hampton Police Department and its officers. All is against the law, peace, and dignity of the State of South Carolina. This being in violation of Section 16-03-2020 (C), South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended.

SLED CASE NUMBER: 2026-04601

Sworn to and Subscribed before me:

14th day of October, 2026

[Signature]
Signature of Judge

) SSA [Signature]
) Affiant
) SS/A Logan Fey
) Agency: SC Law Enforcement Division
) Address: 4400 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29210
) Phone: 803-737-9000