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
November 6, 2026

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information

SLED CHARGES CHARLESTON COUNTY WOMAN WITH HOMICIDE BY CHILD ABUSE

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Janette Elizabeth Clayton, 27, with Homicide by Child Abuse on Wednesday, November 4, 2026. The North Charleston Police Department requested the SLED investigation.

Details can be found in the attached warrant.

Clayton was charged by SLED at the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center in Charleston County, where she was being held on related charges by the North Charleston Police Department.

The case will be prosecuted by the 9th Circuit Solicitors 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

2026A1010207915

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of

Charleston

THE STATE

against

Janette Elizabeth H Clayton

Address: [redacted]

N Charleston, SC 29420-4226

Phone: SSN: [redacted]

Sex: F Race: B Height: 5 7 Weight: 135

DL State: SC DL #: [redacted]

DOB: [redacted]1999 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Meghan E Mcdaniel - S03020

Offense: Murder / Homicide by child abuse (20Y to Life)

Offense Code: 2356

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-03-0085(A)(1)(B)(1)

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 Janette Elizabeth H Clayton on November 4, 2026

Megan E. Davis

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

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

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
[X] County/ [ ] Municipality of)
Charleston)

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

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

Personally appeared before me the affiant Meghan E Mcdaniel who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Janette Elizabeth H Clayton did within this county and state on or about 6/17/2026 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Charleston) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Murder / Homicide by child abuse (20Y to Life)

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)
[X] 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 6/17/2026 defendant Janette Elizabeth H Clayton did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [ ] Municipality of Charleston) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Murder / Homicide by child abuse (20Y to Life)

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 11/3/2026

(L.S.)

Signature of Issuing Judge

Amanda Haselden

Judge Code: 7412

Judge's Address 3831 Leeds Avenue, Suite 200
North Charleston, SC 29405-

Judge's Telephone (843)746-9822

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

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SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
WARRANT AFFIDAVIT

SUSPECT INFORMATION

NAME OF SUSPECT: Janette Elizabeth Clayton

AKA'S OF SUSPECT:

ADDRESS OF SUSPECT: [redacted]

CITY, STATE, ZIP: North Charleston, SC, 29420

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

RACE: Black SEX: Female HGT: 5'7" EYES: BRW HAIR: Black CMPL:

SCARS, MARKS, TATTOOS : OTHER IDENTIFYING INFO:

DOB: [redacted]/1999 SSN: [redacted] DL # [redacted]

VIOLATION

STATUTE: 16-3-85(A)(1) OFFENSE: Homicide by Child Abuse

PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT

State of South Carolina

County of Charleston

Personally appeared before me, the affiant Meghan McDaniel who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Janette Clayton did within this county and state on or about July 12, 2025, through June 17, 2026, violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina in the following particulars: Violation: Homicide by Child Abuse CDR Code: 2356

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:

Between July 12, 2025, and June 17, 2026, the defendant Janette Clayton did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina by causing the death of [redacted], while committing child abuse and/or neglect, and the death occurred under circumstances manifesting an extreme indifference to human life. I further state that there is probable cause to believe the defendant did commit the crime set forth and that probable cause is based on the following facts: [redacted] was born prematurely and diagnosed with Sickle Cell Disease, which required medically necessary appointments. The defendant failed to ensure [redacted] attended these appointments. On June 17, 2026, [redacted] was found unresponsive and pronounced deceased at [redacted] residence. [redacted] was emaciated and weighed approximately 4lb 13oz. The home was in deplorable condition and infested with cockroaches and flies. The home was also devoid of necessary foods for [redacted]. An autopsy revealed [redacted]' cause of death was starvation with acute bronchopneumonia due to neglect. The manner of death was homicide. The defendant was the sole care provider for [redacted].

Special Agent

Special Agent: Meghan McDaniel	Sworn to and subscribed before me this
Office Address: P.O. Box 21398 Columbia, SC 29221	3 day of November 2026

KBLA
11/3/2026