



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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

Henry D. McMaster, Governor

Mark A. Keel, Chief

Tel: (803) 737-9000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
June 09, 2020

Contact: Tommy Crosby
tcrosby@sled.sc.gov
(803) 896-8396

MARION COUNTY MAN CHARGED WITH IMPERSONATING COURT OFFICIAL AND FORGERY

Agents of the S.C. Law Enforcement Division arrested an individual from Marion County Monday in connection with creating and using a counterfeit document for personal use with the forged signature of a Marion County Magistrate.

Lawrence Chadwick Owens, 42, was charged with Impersonating/Act without authority as Justice, Judge Clerk of Court, or other official. He is also charged with Forgery.

The request for the SLED investigation was made by the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

Owens was booked at the Dillon County Detention Center.

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

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Warrants Attached
www.sled.sc.gov

ARREST WARRANT

2020A1710100281

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Dillon

THE STATE

33-19-0122

against

Lawrence Chadwick Owens

Address:

Marion, SC 29571-

Phone: _____ SSN: _____

Sex: M Race: W Height: 5 10 Weight: _____

DL State: _____ DL #: _____

DOB: 1977 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Ashley E Jolda - S00252

Offense: Impersonating / Act without authority as Justice, judge, clerk of court, or other official

Offense Code: 2603

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-17-0735(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 Lawrence Chadwick Owens on 6-3-2020

[Signature]
Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
PO Box 1220
301 West Main Street
Dillon, SC 29536

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

County/ Municipality of)

Dillon)

AFFIDAVIT

ORIGINAL

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

Personally appeared before me the affiant Ashley E Jolda who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Lawrence Chadwick Owens did within this county and state on or about 12/12/2019 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Dillon) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Impersonating / Act without authority as Justice, judge, clerk of court, or other official

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 December 12, 2019, in the county of Dillon, one Lawrence Chadwick Owens did commit the crime of Impersonating / Act without authority as Justice, judge, clerk of court, or other official in that he did provide disposition of criminal charges from an arrest that obtained a forged signature of a Marion County Magistrate in order to avoid being terminated from his employment. Owens acted without authority as a magistrate and signed the document as though he was authorized by state law. Evidence obtained during the South Carolina law Enforcement Division investigation from witnesses and employees identified Owens as the individual that presented the document with the forged signature.

Signature of Affiant

[Signature]

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

County/ Municipality of)

Dillon)

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 12/12/2019 defendant Lawrence Chadwick Owens did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Dillon) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Impersonating / Act without authority as Justice, judge, clerk of court, or other official

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 6/3/2020

[Signature] (L.S.)
Signature of Issuing Judge

Andrew Victor Bethea

Judge Code: 7400

Judge's Address Post Office Box 1016

Dillon, SC 29536-

Judge's Telephone (843)774-1406

Issuing Court: Magistrate Municipal Circuit

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ARREST WARRANT

2020A1710100282

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Dillon

THE STATE

33-19-0122

against

Lawrence Chadwick Owens

Address:

Marion, SC 29571-

Phone:

SSN:

Sex: M Race: W Height: 5 10 Weight:

DL State: DL #:

DOB: 1977 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Ashley E Jolda - S00252

Offense: Forgery / Forgery, no dollar amount involved

Offense Code: 0488

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 Lawrence Chadwick Owens on 6-3-2020

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
PO Box 1220
301 West Main Street
Dillon, SC 29536

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ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Dillon

Personally appeared before me the affiant Ashley E Jolda

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Lawrence Chadwick Owens

did within this county and state on or about 12/12/2019 violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [] Municipality of Dillon)

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Forgery / Forgery, no dollar amount involved

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 December 12, 2019 in the county of Dillon, one Lawrence Chadwick Owens did with intent to defraud, publish as true a forged or counterfeited written instrument, which he knew to be forged or counterfeited. Owens willfully acted or assisted in the false making, forging, or counterfeiting of a Marion County Magistrate's signature. Evidence obtained during the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division investigation from witnesses and employees identified Owens as the individual that presented the document that obtained the forged signature.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Dillon

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 12/12/2019 defendant Lawrence Chadwick Owens

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

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DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Forgery / Forgery, no dollar amount involved

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Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.)

Andrew Victor Bethea

Judge Code: 7400

Judge's Address Post Office Box 1016

Dillon, SC 29536-

Judge's Telephone (843)774-1406

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

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

AFFIDAVIT