



## 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:**  
November 22, 2021

Contact: Paul Ahearn  
[pio@sled.sc.gov](mailto:pio@sled.sc.gov)  
(803) 331-5431

### **FORMER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER CHARGED WITH ASSAULT AND BATTERY AND MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE**

Agents of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division arrested a former officer with the Bennettsville Police Department on Monday for assaulting an individual in custody in Marlboro County.

Jalen Hilton, 23, was charged with second degree assault and battery and misconduct in office.

The request for the SLED investigation was made by the Bennettsville Police Department.

Hilton was booked at the Marlboro County Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the South Carolina Attorney General's Office.

###

Warrants Attached  
[www.sled.sc.gov](http://www.sled.sc.gov)



*An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*



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AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
County/ ) Municipality of )  
Marlboro )

Personally appeared before me the affiant Eric J Johnson who  
being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Jalen Christopher Hilton  
did within this county and state on or about 7/6/2021 violate the criminal laws of the  
State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ) County/ ) Municipality of ) Marlboro )  
in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Assault / Assault & Battery 2nd degree

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 July 6, 2021, Jalen Christopher Hilton, did in Marlboro County, while employed as a Police Officer for Bennettsville Police  
Department, did commit the crime of Assault and Battery 2nd in that he unlawfully grabbed a restrained victim around the neck and  
threw him against the wall. This caused the victim to strike the back of his head against the wall. This offense took place at 254 Hwy  
15,401 Bypass East Bennettsville, SC. The above information corroborated by legally obtained recorded video of the incident, as  
well as witness statements provided to SLED agents. This was done in violation of South Carolina Code of Laws 16-03-0600(D)(1).

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
County/ ) Municipality of )  
Marlboro )

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
County/ ) Municipality of )  
Marlboro )

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
County/ ) Municipality of )  
Marlboro )

Affiant's Address: P. O. Box 21398  
Columbia, SC 29221-  
Affiant's Telephone (803)354-0492

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 7/6/2021 defendant Jalen Christopher Hilton  
did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of  
County/ ) Municipality of ) Marlboro ) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Assault / Assault & Battery 2nd degree

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 7/19/2021 )  
Signature of Issuing Judge )  
Grover McQueen (Magistrate) Jr. )  
Judge Code: 7100 )

Signature of Issuing Judge

RETURN WARRANT TO:  
General Sessions  
105 Main Street  
Bennettsville, SC 29512

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

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County/  Municipality of )  
Marlboro )  
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being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Jalen Christopher Hilton  
did within this county and state on or about 7/6/2021 violate the criminal laws of the  
State of South Carolina (or ordinance of  County/  Municipality of Marlboro )  
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:

On July 6, 2021, Jalen Christopher Hilton, did in Marlboro County, while employed as a Police Officer for Bennettsville Police Department, did commit the crime of Misconduct in Office in that he unlawfully grabbed a restrained victim around the neck and threw him against the wall. This caused the victim to strike the back of his head against the wall. This offense took place at 254 Hwy 15,401 Bypass East Bennettsville, SC. The above information corroborated by legally obtained recorded video of the incident, as well as witness statements provided to SLED agents. This was done in violation of South Carolina Code of Laws.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
County/  Municipality of )  
Marlboro )  
Affiant's Address P. O. Box 21398  
Columbia, SC 29221-  
Affiant's Telephone (803)354-0492

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 7/6/2021 defendant Jalen Christopher Hilton  
did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of  
 County/  Municipality of Marlboro ) 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 11/9/2021 )  
Judge's Address 249 Throop St.  
Bennettsville, SC 29512  
Judge's Telephone (843)479-5620  
Issuing Court:  Magistrate  Municipal  Circuit

Signature of Issuing Judge  
Grover McQueen (Magistrate) Jr.  
Judge Code: 7100

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ARREST WARRANT

2021A3410100393

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
 County/  Municipality of  
Marlboro

THE STATE 33-21-0084  
against  
Jalen Christopher Hilton

Address: [Redacted]  
Phone: [Redacted]  
Sex: M Race: B Height: 6 4 Weight: 204  
DL State: SC DL #: [Redacted] SSN: [Redacted]  
DOB: [Redacted] Agency ORI #: SCLED0000  
Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division  
Prosecuting Officer: Eric J Johnson - S00327  
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

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to  
defendant Jalen Christopher Hilton  
on 11-22-21

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer  
Jashawn Wheeler

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions  
105 Main Street  
Bennettsville, SC 29512

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