



South Carolina

STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

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

Henry D. McMaster, Governor

Mark A. Keel, Chief

WWW.SLED.SC.GOV

(803) 737-9000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 5, 2025

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information

SLED CHARGES SUMTER POLICE OFFICER WITH ASSAULT & BATTERY 3rd DEGREE

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Gerald Richardson, 57, with Assault & Battery - 3rd Degree on Thursday, May 1, 2025. The Sumter Police Department requested the SLED investigation.

Details can be found in the attached warrant.

Richardson was booked into the Sumter-Lee Regional County Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the 3rd 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

2025A4310200147

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

THE STATE

2025-01114

against

Gerald Richardson

Address:

Sumter, SC 29150-

Phone: [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED]

Sex: M Race: B Height: 6 I Weight: 190

DL State: SC DL #: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED] 1967 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Nathan S Poston - S01099

Offense: Assault / Assault & Battery 3rd degree

Offense Code: 3414

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-03-0600(E)(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 Gerald Richardsonon 04/30/2025

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

Sumter Magistrate Court
190 E. Canal Street
Post Office Box 1428
Sumter, SC 291511428

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

Personally appeared before me the affiant Nathan S Poston whobeing duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Gerald Richardsondid within this county and state on or about 2/20/2025 violate the criminal laws of theState of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Sumter)

in the following particulars.

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Assault / Assault & Battery 3rd 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:

That on February 20, 2025, one Gerald Richardson did, at [REDACTED] School within the County of Sumter, commit the offense of Assault and Battery 3rd Degree, to wit: while acting in his capacity as an officer of the Sumter Police Department, Richardson grabbed the victim, a juvenile student, by the neck and forced him to the floor causing him to strike his head. Richardson was attempting to detain the victim due to his use of profane language. Richardson did not give any commands to the victim or tell the victim that he was being detained prior to grabbing the victim, who was seated passively at a cafeteria table. Richardson admitted that it was not normal to grab a passive subject in that manner and that it was not justified in this situation. The Affiant's belief is based upon the Defendant and victim's statements and a video recording. This being in violation of Section 16-3-600(E)(1), South Carolina Code of Laws.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Sumter

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 2/20/2025defendant Gerald Richardson

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

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

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Assault / Assault & Battery 3rd 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 4/29/2025

Signature of Issuing Judge

Bryan Keith Griffin (Magistrate)

Judge Code: 5043Judge's Address 190 E. Canal StreetSumter, SC 29151-1428Judge's Telephone (803)436-2280Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit

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AFFIDAVIT

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