



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
August 22, 2025

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information

SLED CHARGES FORMER CHIEF OF THE WALHALLA RESCUE SQUAD WITH EMBEZZLEMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged William David Tatum, 49, with Embezzlement of Public Funds - Value \$10,000 or more on Friday, August 22, 2025. The Walhalla Rescue Squad requested the SLED investigation.

Details can be found in the attached warrant.

Tatum was booked into the Oconee County Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by 10th Circuit Solicitor's Office.

###

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



An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency



ARREST WARRANT

2025A3710400721

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Oconee

THE STATE 34-22-0093

against

William David Tatum

Address: Walhalla, SC 29691-

Phone: SSN: Sex: M Race: W Height: 6 2 Weight: 290

DL State: SC DL #: DOB: 1976 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: James M Collins - S00748

Offense: Embezzlement / Embezzlement of public funds, value \$10,000 or more

Offense Code: 3459

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-13-0210(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 William David Tatum on 8-22-2025

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

Walhalla Magistrate 208 Booker Drive Walhalla, SC 29691

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Oconee

Personally appeared before me the affiant James M Collins who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant William David Tatum

did within this county and state on or about 1/1/2015 violate the criminal laws of the

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

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Embezzlement / Embezzlement of public funds, value \$10,000 or more

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:

THE DEFENDANT DID, BETWEEN 1-1-15 AND 5-1-22, DURING HIS EMPLOYMENT AND OFFICIAL DUTIES AS THE CHIEF OF THE WALHALLA RESCUE SQUAD, DID COMMIT THE OFFENSE OF EMBEZZLEMENT/EMBEZZLEMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS, VALUED AT MORE THAN \$10,000.00 WHEN HE KNOWINGLY AND WILLFULLY USED PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PERSONAL GAIN. THE DEFENDANT VERBALLY ADMITTED THAT HE USED PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PERSONAL GAIN. THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF OCONEE COUNTY AND WAS INVESTIGATED BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION. A WRITTEN REPORT IS ON FILE. CASE #34-22-0093.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Oconee

Affiant's Address P. O. Box 21398

Columbia, SC 29221-

Affiant's Telephone (864)467-8111

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 1/1/2015 defendant William David Tatum

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

[X] County/ [] Municipality of Oconee) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Embezzlement / Embezzlement of public funds, value \$10,000 or more

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 8/15/2025

(L.S.)

Signature of Issuing Judge

Blake A. Norton (Magistrate)

Judge Code: 5033

Judge's Address 208 Booker Drive

Walhalla, SC 29691-

Judge's Telephone (864)638-4125

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

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

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

AFFIDAVIT

COPY