



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 4, 2026

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information

SLED CHARGES GEORGIA MAN WITH LOTTERY FRAUD

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged John Marquell Bunyon, 31, with Intent to Defraud, Counterfeit Game Tickets on Friday, April 24, 2026. The South Carolina Education Lottery requested the SLED investigation.

Details can be found in the attached warrant.

Bunyon was booked into the Florence County Detention Center.

The case will be prosecuted by the 12th 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

2026A2110100116

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Florence

THE STATE

2026-02492

against

John Marquell Bunyon

Address:

Forsyth, GA 31029-

Phone: SSN: [REDACTED]

Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 9 Weight: 186

DL State: GA DL #: [REDACTED]

DOB: 1994 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Randall W Duncan - S00417

Offense: Lottery / Intent to defraud, counterfeit game tickets; alter, make, etc.

Offense Code: 2900

Code/Ordinance Sec: 59-150-0260(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 John M. Bunyon

on 4-24-26

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions Court
181 North Irby Street, Suite 1100
Florence, SC 29501

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Florence

Personally appeared before me the affiant Randall W Duncan who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant John Marquell Bunyon

did within this county and state on or about 4/22/2026 violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of ☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Florence)

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Lottery / Intent to defraud, counterfeit game tickets; alter, make, etc.

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 April 22, 2026, the defendant, John Marquell Bunyon, did with intent to defraud the South Carolina Education Lottery (SCEL), pass four (4) scratch-off lottery tickets at On The Go; which is located at 221 W. Darlington St. in Florence (Florence County) South Carolina. The defendant previously stole the tickets when he burglarized the Piggly Wiggly #161, located at 221 Cherokee Rd in Florence (Florence County), South Carolina on April 21, 2026. The burglary and cashing of the stolen tickets were captured on video surveillance. The defendant redeemed the stolen tickets for cash prizes totaling eighty dollars (\$80.00). The affiant and others are witness to prove the same.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Florence

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 4/22/2026 defendant John Marquell Bunyon

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

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

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Lottery / Intent to defraud, counterfeit game tickets; alter, make, etc.

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 4/24/2026

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.)

Joe Timothy Suggs

Judge Code: 7539

Judge's Address 180 North Irby Street

Msc-W Florence, SC 29501-

Judge's Telephone (843)665-0031

Issuing Court: ☒ Magistrate ☐ Municipal ☐ Circuit