



South Carolina

STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Henry D. McMaster, Governor

Mark A. Keel, Chief

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

WWW.SLED.SC.GOV

(803) 737-9000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 16, 2026

Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information

SLED INVESTIGATING OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING IN HORRY COUNTY

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) is investigating an officer involved shooting that occurred on Thursday, October 15, 2026, in Horry County.

An officer with the Horry County Police Department (HCPD) arrived at a home on Hayes Point Circle in Myrtle Beach, SC, for a welfare check. The officer encountered an armed man, later identified as Kyle James Smith, 38, coming out of the back door of the home. Smith pointed his gun at the officer, and the officer fired at Smith. Smith was not shot and went back into the home. The officer fired again. Additional HCPD officers and HCPD SWAT responded to the scene. Smith refused to come out of the home, and HCPD learned there was a child inside. Smith released the child. The child was evaluated and found to be unharmed. Smith then surrendered to law enforcement. No one was physically injured. The investigation was requested by the Horry County Police Department. On Friday, October 16, 2026, SLED charged Smith with Pointing and Presenting a Firearm and Unlawfully Placing a Child At Risk. The case will be prosecuted by the 15th Circuit Solicitor's Office.

This is an ongoing investigation. As such, no other information about the case will be disclosed by SLED at this time.

SLED conducts law enforcement officer involved shooting (OIS) investigations at the request of the agency involved in the incident or the agency with jurisdiction. When requested to investigate an OIS, SLED's goal is to conduct a thorough, independent criminal investigation as timely as is possible under the circumstances. SLED agents will conduct interviews with all potential witnesses in this matter. Further, SLED will collect all relevant evidence and will forensically test such evidence as needed. Information gathered in the SLED investigation of the incident will be summarized in a case file report to be submitted to prosecutors.

The incident in Horry County is the 34th officer involved shooting in South Carolina in 2026. This is the 1st officer involved shooting for the Horry County Police Department this year. In 2025, there were 45 officer involved shootings in South Carolina. The Horry County Police Department had no officer involved shootings last year.

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A copy of this news release is 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

2026A2610700981

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Horry

THE STATE
against

2026-06655

Kyle James Smith

Address:

Myrtle Beach, SC 29588-1406

Phone: SSN:

Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 10 Weight: 287

DL State: SC DL #:

DOB: 1988 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Shawn P Morris - S03953

Offense: Children / Unlawfully place a child at risk of or
cause harm or willfully abandon the child

Offense Code: 2481

Code/Ordinance Sec: 63-05-0070

This warrant is CERTIFIED FOR SERVICE in the

☐ County/ ☐ Municipality ofThe 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 on 10/16/26 11:26 AM

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
PO Box 677
1301 2nd Avenue
Conway, SC 29528

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Horry

Personally appeared before me the affiant Shawn P Morris who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Kyle James Smith

did within this county and state on or about 10/15/2026 violate the criminal laws of the

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

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Children / Unlawfully place a child at risk of or cause harm or willfully abandon the child

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 October 15, 2026, Kyle James Smith did within Horry County, commit the offense of Unlawful Conduct towards a child, to wit: HCPD Officer responded to Hayes Point Circle, Myrtle Beach, to conduct a welfare check on Smith. During the welfare check, Smith drew and pointed a handgun at Officer. Officer discharged department issued handgun at Smith. Smith barricaded himself and his. While barricaded, Smith discharged a shotgun, which struck the ceiling. Smith's actions placed in an unreasonable risk of harm. The Affiant's belief is based upon facts learned during the investigation. This being in violation of South Carolina Code of Laws 63-05-70. 2026-06655 Morris

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Horry

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 10/15/2026 defendant Kyle James Smith

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

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Horry as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Children / Unlawfully place a child at risk of or cause harm or willfully abandon the child

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 10/16/2026

(L.S.)

Signature of Issuing Judge
Bradley Dwyer Mayers

Judge Code: 5081

Judge's Address

Conway, SC 29526-5105

Judge's Telephone

(843)915-5290

Issuing Court:

☒ Magistrate☐ Municipal☐ Circuit

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ARREST WARRANT

2026A2610700980

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Horry

THE STATE

2026-06655

against

Kyle James Smith

Address:

Myrtle Beach, SC 29588-1406

Phone: SSN

Sex: M Race: B Height: 5 10 Weight: 287

DL State: SC DL #:

DOB: 1988 Agency ORI #: SCLED0000

Prosecuting Agency: State Law Enforcement Division

Prosecuting Officer: Shawn P Morris - S03953

Offense: Weapons / Pointing and presenting firearms at a person

Offense Code: 0122

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-23-0410

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

on

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
PO Box 677
1301 2nd Avenue
Conway, SC 29528

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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Personally appeared before me the affiant Shawn P Morris

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Kyle James Smith

did within this county and state on or about 10/15/2026

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

Horry

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Weapons / Pointing and presenting firearms at a person

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 October 15, 2026, Kyle James Smith did within Horry County, commit the offense of Pointing and Presenting a Firearm at a Person, to wit: HCPD Officer responded to Hayes Point Circle, Myrtle Beach to conduct a welfare check on Smith. Smith had previously sent a concerning voice message to a family member. During the welfare check, Smith drew and pointed a handgun at Officer. The Affiant's belief is based upon facts learned during the investigation. This being in violation of South Carolina Code of Laws 16-23-0410. 2026-06655 Morris

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of

Horry

Affiant's Address P. O. Box 21398

Columbia, SC 29221-

Affiant's Telephone

ARREST WARRANT

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on or about 10/15/2026

defendant Kyle James Smith

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

☒ County/ ☐ Municipality of Horry

) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Weapons / Pointing and presenting firearms at a person

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Sworn to and subscribed before me

on 10/16/2026

Signature of Issuing Judge

Bradley Dwyer Mayers

Judge Code: 5081

(L.S.)

Judge's Address

Conway, SC 29526-5105

Judge's Telephone

(843)915-5290

Issuing Court:

☒ Magistrate☐ Municipal☐ Circuit

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Form Approved by
S.C. Attorney General
April 21, 2003
SCCA 516

AFFIDAVIT