



South Carolina Department of Corrections

June 5, 2026

For immediate release

Contact: Chrysti Shain, (803) 413-8206

Shain.Chrysti@doc.sc.gov

COLUMBIA, S.C. – The SCDC Inspector General released the arrest warrants today for a correctional officer at Turbeville Correctional Institution.

Laura Leigh Patterson, 32, of Kingstree, was charged with bribery, securities fraud, misconduct in office and violating the computer crime act. The charges involve receiving \$18,743 from or on behalf of an inmate. She was fired.

The S.C. Department of Corrections reminds members of the public that after an arrest, the burden of proof is on the state to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt within a court of law.

Copies of the arrest warrants are attached.



ARREST WARRANT

2026A1410100221

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Clarendon

THE STATE against

Laura Leigh Patterson

Address:

Phone:

Sex: F Race: Height: 5 8 Weight: 240

DL State: SC DL #:

DOB: Agency ORI #: SC040095C

Prosecuting Agency: S C D C Office of The Inspector General

Prosecuting Officer: Trevor W Sherbert - S00859

Offense: Public / Public official, bribes, influence action of public employee, member, official or witness

Offense Code: 0409

Code/Ordinance Sec: 08-13-0705

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 Laura Patterson Laura Patterson

on 5-8-2026

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions Post Office Box 136 3 West Keitt Street Manning, SC 29102

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Clarendon

Personally appeared before me the affiant Trevor W Sherbert who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Laura Leigh Patterson did within this county and state on or about 5/1/2020 violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [] Municipality of Clarendon) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Public / Public official, bribes, influence action of public employee, member, official or witness

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:

SEE ATTACHMENT

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Clarendon

Affiant's Address P.O. Box 21787 Columbia, SC 29221-1787

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 5/1/2020 defendant Laura Leigh Patterson

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

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

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Public / Public official, bribes, influence action of public employee, member, official or witness

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 5/8/2026

Signature of Issuing Judge (L.S.) Robin Carol Locklear-Moody

Robin Carol Locklear-Moody

Judge Code: 7268

Judge's Address Post Office Box 371 Manning, SC 29102-

Judge's Telephone (803)435-2670

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

MAY 8 2026 12:45

WARRANT # 2026A14101000221
STATE V. LAURA LEIGH PATTERON
08-13-0705 0409
ETHICS VIOLATION

That from on or about May 01, 2020, to on or about December 01, 2021, LAURA LEIGH PATTERSON did, in Clarendon County, while a Correctional Officer (CO) with the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC), a public official and sworn law enforcement officer did, directly or indirectly, knowingly ask, demand exact, solicit, seek, accept, assign, receive, or agree to receive anything of value for herself or others in return for being influenced in the discharge of her official responsibilities and induced to perform or fail to perform an act in violation of her official duties, to wit: PATTERSON did exact, solicit, seek, accept, assign, receive, or agree to receive U.S. currency via Cash App in the amount of \$18,743.00 from or on behalf of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in return for influencing the discharge of her official responsibilities and failing to perform an act or act(s) in violation of her official duties. Therefore, PATTERSON did, by malfeasance, misfeasance, and nonfeasance, commit acts and omissions in breach of her duties as a sworn Law Enforcement Officer, including her duty of good faith, honesty, and accountability to the public. All in violation of 08-13-705 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, and such conduct arising out of or in connection with a crime involving public corruption, and involving a violation of the South Carolina Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act, and such conduct not having been authorized by law, against the peace and dignity of this State and contrary to the law in such case made and provided.

SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT

SIGNATURE OF JUDGE 10:18 AM

ARREST WARRANT

2026A1410100222

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Clarendon

THE STATE

against

Laura Leigh Patterson

Address:

Phone:

Sex: F Race: Height: 5 8 Weight: 240

DL State: SC DL #: Agency ORI #: SC040095C

DOB: Agency ORI #: SC040095C

Prosecuting Agency: S C D C Office Of The Inspector Genera

Prosecuting Officer: Trevor W Sherbert - S00859

Offense: Computer / Computer Crime Act, value exceeds \$10,000-First degree(formerly CDR 426)

Offense Code: 3110

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-16-0020(2)

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 Laura Patterson Laura Patterson

on 5-8-2026

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
Post Office Box 136
3 West Keitt Street
Manning, SC 29102

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Clarendon

Personally appeared before me the affiant Trevor W Sherbert who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Laura Leigh Patterson

did within this county and state on or about 5/1/2020 violate the criminal laws of the

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

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Computer / Computer Crime Act, value exceeds \$10,000-First degree(formerly CDR 426)

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:

SEE ATTACHMENT

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Clarendon

Affiant's Address P.O. Box 21787

Columbia, SC 29221-1787

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 5/1/2020 defendant Laura Leigh Patterson

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

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

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Computer / Computer Crime Act, value exceeds \$10,000-First degree(formerly CDR 426)

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 5/8/2026

Signature of Issuing Judge Robin Carol Locklear-Moody (L.S.)

Robin Carol Locklear-Moody

Judge Code: 7268

Judge's Address Post Office Box 371

Manning, SC 29102-

Judge's Telephone (803)435-2670

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

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

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AFFIDAVIT


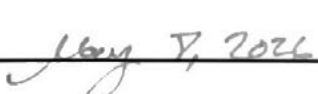
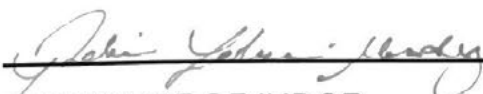
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WARRANT # 2026A1410100022
STATE V. LAURA LEIGH PATTERON
16-16-0020(2) 3110
COMPUTER CRIMES ACT

That from on or about May 01, 2020, to on or about December 01, 2021, LAURA LEIGH PATTERSON did, in Clarendon County, while a Correctional Officer (CO) with the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC), a public official and sworn law enforcement officer did willfully, knowingly, maliciously, and without authorization or for an unauthorized purpose to directly or indirectly access or cause to be accessed a computer, computer system, or computer network to commit the following, but not limited to, crime(s): Misconduct in Office and Ethics Violation to wit: PATTERSON did exact, solicit, seek, accept, assign, receive, or agree to receive U.S. currency via Cash App in the amount of \$18,743.00 from or on behalf of [REDACTED] in return for influencing the discharge of her official responsibilities and failing to perform an act or act(s) in violation of her official duties. Therefore, PATTERSON did, by malfeasance, misfeasance, and nonfeasance, commit acts and omissions in breach of her duties as a sworn Law Enforcement Officer, including her duty of good faith, honesty, and accountability to the public. PATTERSON conducted transactions over multiple accounts with [REDACTED] who utilized multiple accounts and aliases with clear intent to convert, structure, transfer, or otherwise obscure the source of said funds to conduct otherwise illicit associations with inmates of SCDC. All in violation of 35-11-740 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, and such conduct involving a violation of the South Carolina Anti-Money Laundering Act, or a crime related to a violation of the Anti-Money Laundering Act, and such conduct also involving a crime involving computer crimes, or a conspiracy or solicitation to commit a crime involving computer crimes, and such conduct having not been authorized by law.



SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT



SIGNATURE OF JUDGE

ARREST WARRANT

2026A1410100223

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

[X] County/ [] Municipality of

Clarendon

THE STATE against

Laura Leigh Patterson

Address: [Redacted]
Phone: [Redacted]
Sex: F Race: Height: 5 8 Weight: 240
DL State: SC DL #: [Redacted]
DOB: [Redacted] Agency ORI #: SC040095C
Prosecuting Agency: S C D C Office Of The Inspector General
Prosecuting Officer: Trevor W Sherbert - S00859
Offense: Securitics / Attempts or conducts financial transaction with proceeds believed to be of
Offense Code: 3943
Code/Ordinance Sec: 35-11-0740(A)(3)

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 Laura Patterson Laura Patterson on 5-8-2026

[Signature] Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions
Post Office Box 136
3 West Keitt Street
Manning, SC 29102

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
[X] County/ [] Municipality of
Clarendon

Personally appeared before me the affiant Trevor W Sherbert who being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Laura Leigh Patterson did within this county and state on or about 5/1/2020 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [] Municipality of Clarendon) in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Securitics / Attempts or conducts financial transaction with proceeds believed to be of unlawful activity, to promote or conceal, >\$300 < \$20,000

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:

SEE ATTACHMENT

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
[X] County/ [] Municipality of
Clarendon

Affiant's Address P.O. Box 21787
Columbia, SC 29221-1787
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 5/1/2020 defendant Laura Leigh Patterson did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of [X] County/ [] Municipality of Clarendon) as set forth below:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Securitics / Attempts or conducts financial transaction with proceeds believed to be of unlawful activity, to promote or conceal, >\$300 < \$20,000

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 5/8/2026

[Signature] (L.S.)
Signature of Issuing Judge
Robin Carol Locklear-Moody
Judge Code: 7268

Judge's Address Post Office Box 371
Manning, SC 29102-
Judge's Telephone (803)435-2670

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

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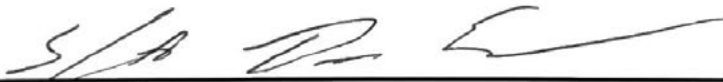
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AFFIDAVIT

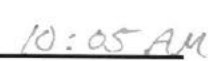
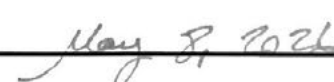

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WARRANT # 2026A1410100023
STATE V. LAURA LEIGH PATTERON
35-11-0740(A0 (3) 3943
MONEY LAUNDERING

That from on or about May 01, 2020, to on or about December 01, 2021, LAURA LEIGH PATTERSON did, in Clarendon County, while a Correctional Officer (CO) with the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC), a public official and sworn law enforcement officer did conduct financial transactions totaling over \$10,000 that she knew were the proceeds of or were derived directly or indirectly from the proceeds of, unlawful activity. She conducted these transactions with the intent to promote the carrying on of unlawful activity. While knowing that the transactions were designed in whole or in part to conceal or disguise the nature, location, sources, ownership, or control of the proceeds of unlawful activity, to wit: PATTERSON did exact, solicit, seek, accept, assign, receive, or agree to receive U.S. currency via Cash App in the amount of \$18,743.00 from or on behalf of [REDACTED] in return for influencing the discharge of her official responsibilities and failing to perform an act or act(s) in violation of her official duties. Therefore, PATTERSON did, by malfeasance, misfeasance, and nonfeasance, commit acts and omissions in breach of her duties as a sworn Law Enforcement Officer, including her duty of good faith, honesty, and accountability to the public. PATTERSON conducted transactions over multiple accounts with [REDACTED] who utilized multiple accounts and aliases with clear intent to convert, structure, transfer, or otherwise obscure the source of said funds to conduct otherwise illicit associations with inmates of SCDC. All in violation of 35-11-740 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, and such conduct involving a violation of the South Carolina Anti-Money Laundering Act, or a crime related to a violation of the Anti-Money Laundering Act, and such conduct also involving a crime involving computer crimes, or a conspiracy or solicitation to commit a crime involving computer crimes, and such conduct having not been authorized by law.



SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT



SIGNATURE OF JUDGE

ARREST WARRANT

2026A1410100220

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Clarendon

THE STATE against

Laura Leigh Patterson

Address:

Phone:

Sex: F Race: Height: 5 8 Weight: 240

DL State: SC DL #: Agency ORI #: SC040095C

DOB: Prosecuting Agency: S C D C Office Of The Inspector General

Prosecuting Officer: Trevor W Sherbert - S00859

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

Date:

RETURN

A copy of this arrest warrant was delivered to defendant Laura L Patterson on 5-8-2026

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions Post Office Box 136 3 West Keitt Street Manning, SC 29102

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA County/ Municipality of Clarendon

Affiant Trevor W Sherbert personally appeared before me the affiant being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Laura Leigh Patterson did within this county and state on or about 5/1/2020 violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Clarendon) 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:

SEE ATTACHMENT

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA County/ Municipality of Clarendon

Affiant's Address P.O. Box 21787 Columbia, SC 29221-1787 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 5/1/2020 defendant Laura Leigh Patterson did violate the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Clarendon) 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 5/8/2026

Signature of Issuing Judge Robin Carol Locklear-Moody Judge Code: 7268

Judge's Address Post Office Box 371 Manning, SC 29102 Judge's Telephone (803)435-2670

Issuing Court: Magistrate Municipal Circuit

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

AFFIDAVIT

WARRANT # 2026A1410100220

STATE V: Laura Leigh Patterson
17-25-0030 0819
MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE

That from on or about May 01, 2020, to on or about December 01, 2021, LAURA LEIGH PATTERSON did, in Clarendon County, while a Correctional Officer (CO) with the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC), a public official and sworn law enforcement officer, willfully and dishonestly fail to properly and faithfully discharge the duties other public office imposed upon her by law; to wit: PATTERSON did exact, solicit, seek, accept, assign, receive, or agree to receive U.S. currency via Cash App in the amount of \$18,743.00 from or on behalf of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in return for influencing the discharge of her official responsibilities and failing to perform an act or act(s) in violation of her official duties. Therefore, PATTERSON did, by malfeasance, misfeasance, and nonfeasance, commit acts and omissions in breach of her duties as a sworn Law Enforcement Officer, including her duty of good faith, honesty, and accountability to the public. All are in violation of the Common Law of South Carolina, and such conduct involves public corruption and arises out of or in connection with a crime involving public corruption and such conduct has not been authorized by law, against the peace and dignity of this State and contrary to the law in such case made and provided.



SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT



SIGNATURE OF JUDGE

May 8, 2026 10:23 AM