

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
COUNTY OF AIKEN )  
)  
)  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
vs. )  
)  
DAWON J WELLS )  
DEFENDANT )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

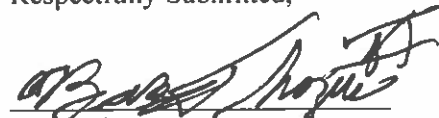
INDICTMENT#:  
2026GS0201306

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**May 22 2026**  
**SC Court of Appeals**

**RULE 203(B) EXPLANATION**

Pursuant to Rule 203(B)(iv), the undersigned asserts that he does not have a good faith basis to believe that any issues are properly before the Court of Appeals, and the undersigned did not object to the sentence or file a motion to reconsider the sentence. The Defendant then contacted an attorney in the Public Defender’s Office telling him that he wanted an appeal filed in his case. The undersigned has filed the instant appeal at the request of the Appellant because the Sixth Amendment requires counsel to follow the Appellant’s request. See *Frazier v. South Carolina*, 430 F.3d 696, 706 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir.2005) (“A defendant has a right to pursue a direct appeal, even if frivolous, which counsel must assist as ‘an active advocate on behalf of his client.’”) (Quoting *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738, 744 (1967)).

Respectfully Submitted,



Barry Thompson  
Assistant Public Defender  
Post Office Drawer 2247  
Aiken, South Carolina 29802  
803-642-1732

May 22, 2026



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SC Court of Appeals

WITNESSES

Aiken Department of Public Safety

Christopher Weathersbee - Aiken Department of

Law Enforcement Case #: 2026-01504

MH

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

2026A0220100223 FILED 19 May 2026

*Robert J. White*  
Clerk of Court

*Kristen L. Davis*  
Deputy Clerk

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

Foreperson of Grand Jury  
Date: July 2, 2026

VERDICT

Foreperson of Petit Jury  
Date:

DOCKET NO. 2026GS0201306

The State of South Carolina  
County of Aiken

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

JULY TERM 2026

THE STATE

vs.

DAWON JACQUES WELLS

CDR : 3812

Indictment For

Domestic Violence - 2nd Degree

SC Code: §16-25-20(C)(4)(a), 16-25-20  
(A)(2), 16-25-20(D)

Bill Weeks, Solicitor

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF AIKEN

)  
)  
)


INDICTMENT FOR  
**Domestic Violence - 2nd Degree**  
§16-25-20(C)(4)(a), 16-25-20(A)  
(2), 16-25-20(D)

At a term of the Aiken County Grand Jury convened on July 2, 2026, the Grand Jurors of Aiken County present upon their oath:

That **DAWON JACQUES WELLS** did, in Aiken County, South Carolina, on or about March 31, 2026, offer or attempt to cause physical harm or injury to a household member of Dawon Jacques Wells, with apparent present ability under circumstances which reasonably created fear of imminent peril, and the offense was committed in the presence of a minor, all in violation of Section 16-25-20(C)(4)(a), 16-25-20(A)(2), 16-25-20(D), of the South Carolina Code of Laws (1976), as amended.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.

**RECEIVED**  
**May 22 2026**  
**SC Court of Appeals**

  
Bill Weeks, Solicitor

ARREST WARRANT

2026A0220100223

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

County/ Municipality of

Aiken

THE STATE 2026-01504 against

Dawon Jacques Wells

Address:

Phone: SSN: Sex: M Race: B Height: 6 2 Weight: 210

D.L. State: SC DL #:

DOB: Agency ORI #: SC0020100

Prosecuting Agency: Aiken Department Of Public Safety

Prosecuting Officer: Christopher L Weathersbee - S00711

Offense: Domestic / Domestic Violence, 2nd degree

Offense Code: 3812

Code/Ordinance Sec: 16-25-0020(C)

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 Dawson Jacques Wells on 4-1-26

Signature of Constable/Law Enforcement Officer

RETURN WARRANT TO:

General Sessions P O Box 583 109 Park Avenue Aiken, SC 29802

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

County/ Municipality of

Aiken

Personally appeared before me the affiant Christopher L Weathersbee who

being duly sworn deposes and says that defendant Dawon Jacques Wells

did within this county and state on or about 3/31/2026 violate the criminal laws of the

State of South Carolina (or ordinance of County/ Municipality of Aiken )

in the following particulars:

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Domestic / Domestic Violence, 2nd 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:

Upon information and belief, the defendant, Dawon Wells, did on 03-31-2026 commit the offense of Domestic Violence 2nd Degree. The defendant did strike the victim in the face. The victim was heard yelling let go of me, stop hitting me. The victim was heard saying she needed to open the door all while officers were knocking on the door. This incident occurred in the presence of the couple's one-year-old juvenile daughter. Wells was found hiding in a closet, which he used the juvenile's crib to block the closet door. The juvenile was in the crib at the time. This offense did occur at 808-A Brandt Court, which is within the city limits of Aiken, S.C. and is in violation of South Carolina 1976 Code of Laws as amended.

Signature of Affiant

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

County/ Municipality of

Aiken

Affiant's Address 834 Beaufort St, Ne

Aiken, SC 29801-

Affiant's Telephone (803)642-7620

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 3/31/2026 defendant Dawon Jacques Wells

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

County/ Municipality of Aiken ) as set forth below.

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENSE: Domestic / Domestic Violence, 2nd 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 4/1/2026

(L.S.)

Signature of Issuing Judge

Tracey Lynn Carroll

Judge Code: 6814

Judge's Address Post Office Box 1177

Aiken, SC 29802-1177

Judge's Telephone (803)642-7676

Issuing Court. Magistrate Municipality Circuit

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

AFFIDAVIT

R. Cooper For

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SC Court of Appeals

BAIL set by

Judge Laura Maura  
on 4/1/26  
Type and Amount: \$10,000 KB  
Name of Surety: \_\_\_\_\_

**PRELIMINARY HEARING held by**

Judge \_\_\_\_\_  
on \_\_\_\_\_  
Defendant Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_  
Decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**DISPOSITION before**

Judge \_\_\_\_\_  
on \_\_\_\_\_  
by \_\_\_\_\_  
(indicate jury trial, bench trial, plea, nol, pros, etc.)  
Disposition: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

**JURORS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**WITNESSES**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**CODEFENDANTS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



*Handwritten notes:*  
117A  
[Signature]

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May 22 2026

SC Court of Appeals

CS P

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
COUNTY OF Aiken )

AFFIDAVIT OF INDIGENCY AND  
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTED COUNSEL

STATE VS Dawson Jacques Wells

ARREST WARRANT / TICKET & CHARGE:  
2026 A.O.C. 201 00223- Domestic Violence 2nd.

1. ARE YOU PRESENTLY EMPLOYED? YES  NO  If yes, Please state the name and address of your employer and the amount of your salary or wages per month and or week.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

NET WAGES: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ WEEKLY / BI-WEEKLY / MONTHLY

If No, please state the name and address of your former employer, date of termination and the amount of your salary or wages

EMPLOYER: \_\_\_\_\_

NET WAGES: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ WEEKLY / BI-WEEKLY / MONTHLY DATE OF TERMINATION: \_\_\_\_\_

2. HOUSEHOLD MEMBER(S) EMPLOYER (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

NET WAGES: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ WEEKLY / BI-WEEKLY / MONTHLY

3. Have you or household member(s) received within the past twelve months any money from any of the following sources?

- a. Business, Profession or Self-Employment? Yes  No
- b. Rent Payments, Interest or Dividends? Yes  No
- c. Pensions, Annuities or Life Insurance Payments? Yes  No
- d. Gifts or Inheritance? Yes  No
- e. Any Other Source (including Unemployment, Retirement, Disability and/or Food Stamps)? Yes  No

If the answer to any question above is "Yes", please list the source of the money and the amount received within the last 12 months

SOURCE: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

4. LIST BY NAME, AGE AND RELATIONSHIP TO YOU, ANY PERSONS WHO ARE DEPENDENT UPON YOU FOR SUPPORT. INDICATE BESIDE EACH HOW MUCH YOU CONTRIBUTE TOWARD THEIR SUPPORT.

NAME: Bana AGE: 1 RELATIONSHIP: daug AMOUNT \$ 300<sup>00</sup> monthly

NAME: I AGE: 1 RELATIONSHIP: I AMOUNT \$ I

NAME: I AGE: 1 RELATIONSHIP: I AMOUNT \$ I

5. DO YOU HAVE CASH OR DO YOU HAVE ANY MONEY IN A CHECKING OR SAVINGS ACCOUNT  
CASH: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ CHECKING: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ SAVINGS: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

6. DO YOU OWN ANY REAL ESTATE, STOCKS, BONDS, NOTES OR OTHER VALUABLE PROPERTY, EXCLUDING ORDINARY HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS AND CLOTHING? YES  NO

PLEASE SPECIFY: \_\_\_\_\_

7. LIST THE TYPE OF VEHICLE(S) YOU OWN (YEAR, MAKE, MODEL) \_\_\_\_\_  
 PAID FOR? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT OF PAYMENT(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
 8. DO YOU OR HOUSEHOLD MEMBER PAY RENT OR MORTGAGE? \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. AMOUNT OF DEBTS, LIENS, MORTGAGES, ETC? \_\_\_\_\_  
 AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Involved w/ victim  
 Can not go back*

I do solemnly swear that the information reported by me for this application for counsel does contain a true and full account of all my real and personal estate, debts, credits and effects whatsoever without exception, which I or any person in trust for me have or at the time of my possession had, or am, or was in any way respect, entitled to, in possession, remainder or reversion, and that I have not at any time since charges were made against me or before, directly or indirectly sold, leased, assigned, or otherwise disposed of any property, or made over in trust for my self or otherwise, other than mentioned herein.

I understand that the appointment of counsel creates a claim against the assets and estate of the person who is provided counsel or the parents or legal guardians of a juvenile in the amount equal to the costs of representation less the amount paid to appointed counsel, the public defender office and/or the Commission on Indigent Defense. I understand such claim shall be filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court where I, my child, or ward are assigned counsel, but that the filing of a claim shall not constitute a lien against my real or personal property unless, in the discretion of the Court, part or all of such a claim is reduced to judgment by appropriate Order of the Court, after serving me with at least thirty (30) days notice that judgment will be entered.

I understand that pursuant to §17-3-30(b), I am required to pay a non-refundable \$40.00 application fee to the Public Defender's Office for public defender services or other appointed counsel.

I am financially unable to employ counsel and request that counsel be assigned to represent me. I understand that I am entitled to at least 30 days notice before a claim against me may be reduced to judgment, and I do hereby waive the right to such notice.

*[Signature]*  
 Applicant

Sworn to before me this 2 day of April, 2026

*[Signature]* Notary Public for South Carolina. My commission expires: 6-4-31

RACE: B SEX: m AGE: 28  
 SSN: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY & STATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

IN JAIL       OUT ON BOND  
 DATE OF ARREST: 4-1  
 BOND AMOUNT: 10,000  
 BONDSMAN: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CO-DEFENDANTS: \_\_\_\_\_

The applicant's request for counsel is hereby  
 GRANTED  
 DENIED

*[Signature]*  
 Judge, Clerk or Deputy Clerk  
 DATE: 4/4/26