

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

COMPLAINT FORM

FOR COMMISSION USE ONLY:

CASE NUMBER

c 2024-051

COMPLAINANT: Kyle Joslin

RESPONDENT: Charles Wright

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

TITLE: N/A

TITLE: Sheriff

Set forth in detail specific facts upon which you based your complaint against above-named respondent (only detailed, clear factual allegations will be considered. If additional space is needed, attach supplemental sheets).

See Attachment

All investigations, inquiries, hearings, and accompanying documents must remain confidential unless respondent waives the right to confidentiality. If there is a finding of probable cause, the following documents become public record: the complaint, the response (if any) by respondent, and the notice of hearing. If a hearing is to be held, the final order and all exhibits become public record. If no hearing is held following a finding of probable cause, the final disposition of the matter becomes public record. The willful release of confidential information is a misdemeanor, and any person releasing such confidential information, upon conviction, must be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or imprisoned not more than one year. Section 8-13-320(10)(g).

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF Richland

Personally appeared before me Kyle Joslin who, first being duly sworn, says that he/she has read and knows the contents of the above complaint and that the allegations contained therein, are true and correct to the best of his/her own knowledge, except for those matters therein based upon information and belief, and as to those he/she believes them to be true.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

11th day of July, 2024

Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission expires

12-30-2031



State of South Carolina
Notary Public
Rebecca S. Seagle
My Commission Expires 12/30/2031

Complainant Signature

SEC-7 (Revised 8/2019)

REPLY TO: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210 (803)253-4192

FAXED COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

C102form

Kyle Joslin

410 Flowerwood Ln.

Inman, SC 29349

JoslinKyle@rocketmail.com

July 11, 2024

South Carolina State Ethics Commission

201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150

Columbia, SC 29210

Dear Members of the South Carolina State Ethics Commission,

I am writing to file a formal complaint against Sheriff Charles Wright of Spartanburg, South Carolina, for a violation of South Carolina ethics laws as outlined in Sections 8-13-700 and 8-13-750 of the South Carolina Code of Laws.

According to the information I have received, Sheriff Charles Wright has recently hired his son, Jared A. Wright, to a position within the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office. This action appears to directly violate the following provisions:

1. ****Section 8-13-700(A)****: This section prohibits public officials from using their official position to obtain an economic interest for themselves or their family members. By hiring his son, Sheriff Charles Wright has arguably used his official position to secure a financial gain for a family member, thereby contravening this section.
2. ****Section 8-13-750(A)****: This section explicitly prohibits public officials from causing the employment, appointment, promotion, transfer, or advancement of a family member to a state or local office or position that the public official supervises or manages. Sheriff Charles Wright hiring his son to a position within the department he supervises directly violates this statute.
3. ****Section 8-13-750(B)****: This section further prohibits public officials from participating in any action related to the discipline of their family members. Given the direct supervisory role Sheriff Charles Wright would have over his son, this provision is also relevant and concerning.

The actions of Sheriff Charles Wright undermine public trust and appear to be in direct conflict with the ethical standards set forth by South Carolina law. These statutes are in place to prevent nepotism and ensure that public officials act in the best interest of the public without personal or familial bias.

I respectfully request that the South Carolina State Ethics Commission investigate this matter thoroughly to determine whether these ethical violations have occurred and to take appropriate action if warranted.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information or clarification regarding this complaint. I appreciate your attention to this serious matter.

Sincerely,

Kyle Joslin



July 11, 2024

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA	)	
COUNTY OF RICHLAND	)	BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
	)	
	)	
IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	
Complaints C2024-051	)	
C2024-055	)	
C2024-056	)	
	)	
Kyle Joslin, Brittney Duncan,	)	NOTICE OF HEARING
and Nicholas Duncan	)	
Complainants.	)	
	)	
Charles "Chuck" Wright	)	
Respondent.	)	
	)	

The State Ethics Commission has determined that there is probable cause pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, in the above-captioned complaints. The State Ethics Commission will, therefore, convene a formal hearing into the matters, in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10)(i) & (j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.) on Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. at the State Ethics Commission Hearing Room located at: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210.

The following allegations will be heard:

COUNT ONE
FAILURE TO RECUSE FROM A GOVERNMENTAL DECISION IN WHICH AN
FAMILY MEMBER HAS AN ECONOMIC INTEREST
SECTION 8-13-700(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Charles "Chuck" Wright, Spartanburg County Sheriff, did fail to recuse from the hiring process of his son as a deputy sheriff for the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office in July of 2024, in violation of Section 8-13-700(B).

COUNT TWO
PARTICIPATION IN ACTION RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT OF A FAMILY
MEMBER
SECTION 8-13-750(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Charles "Chuck" Wright, Spartanburg County Sheriff, did appoint his son as a compensated deputy sheriff for the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office on July 1, 2024, in violation of Section 8-13-750(B).

You have the right to be represented by counsel, the right to call and examine witnesses, the right to introduce exhibits, and the right to cross-examine opposing witnesses. This hearing will be open to the public as required by Section 8-13-320(10)(j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended. The procedures to be followed are set forth in the Administrative Procedures Act, Section 1-23-10, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, the State Ethics Act, Section 8-13-100, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.).

A pre-hearing conference may be scheduled prior to the hearing to allow exchange of witness lists and evidence, marking of exhibits, and disposition of motions or pleadings. In the event you fail to appear, judgment by default will be rendered against you. If there are any questions concerning the above notice or hearing times, please contact the State Ethics Commission.


Meghan Walker Dayson, Executive Director
State Ethics Commission

Dated this 26th day,
of September 2025.

Certificate of Service by Certified Mail

I hereby certify that a copy of this **NOTICE OF HEARING** was duly served on Respondent's Attorney Steve Denton, 178 W. Main Street, Spartanburg, SC 29306 by depositing said **NOTICE OF HEARING** in the United States mail, Columbia, South Carolina on this ____ day of September 2025, by CERTIFIED MAIL, E-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, appropriate postage affixed, and a return address clearly indicated on said envelope.



Columbia, South Carolina

Rachael O'Bryan, Administrative Assistant
State Ethics Commission (803) 253-4192

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA	)	
COUNTY OF RICHLAND	)	BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
	)	
	)	
IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	
Complaints C2024-051	)	
C2024-055	)	
C2024-056	)	
	)	
Kyle Joslin, Brittney Duncan,	)	AMENDED
and Nicholas Duncan	)	NOTICE OF HEARING
Complainants.	)	
	)	
Charles "Chuck" Wright	)	
Respondent.	)	
	)	

The State Ethics Commission has determined that there is probable cause pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, in the above-captioned complaints. The State Ethics Commission will, therefore, convene a formal hearing into the matters, in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10)(i) & (j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.) on Thursday, June 18, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. at the State Ethics Commission Hearing Room located at: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210.

The following allegations will be heard:

COUNT ONE
FAILURE TO RECUSE FROM A GOVERNMENTAL DECISION IN WHICH AN
FAMILY MEMBER HAS AN ECONOMIC INTEREST
SECTION 8-13-700(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Charles "Chuck" Wright, Spartanburg County Sheriff, did fail to recuse from the hiring process of his son as a deputy sheriff for the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office in July of 2024, in violation of Section 8-13-700(B).

COUNT TWO
PARTICIPATION IN ACTION RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT OF A FAMILY
MEMBER
SECTION 8-13-750(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Charles "Chuck" Wright, Spartanburg County Sheriff, did appoint his son as a compensated deputy sheriff for the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office on July 1, 2024, in violation of Section 8-13-750(B).

You have the right to be represented by counsel, the right to call and examine witnesses, the right to introduce exhibits, and the right to cross-examine opposing witnesses. This hearing will be open to the public as required by Section 8-13-320(10)(j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended. The procedures to be followed are set forth in the Administrative Procedures Act, Section 1-23-10, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, the State Ethics Act, Section 8-13-100, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.).

A pre-hearing conference may be scheduled prior to the hearing to allow exchange of witness lists and evidence, marking of exhibits, and disposition of motions or pleadings. In the event you fail to appear, judgment by default will be rendered against you. If there are any questions concerning the above notice or hearing times, please contact the State Ethics Commission.



Meghan Walker Dayson, Executive Director
State Ethics Commission

Dated this 5th day,
of February 2026.

Certificate of Service by Certified Mail

I hereby certify that a copy of this **AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING** was duly served on Respondent's Attorney Steve Denton, 178 W. Main Street, Spartanburg, SC 29306 by depositing said **AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING** in the United States mail, Columbia, South Carolina on this 6th day of February 2026, by CERTIFIED MAIL, E-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, appropriate postage affixed, and a return address clearly indicated on said envelope.

Columbia, South Carolina


Rachael O'Bryan, Administrative Assistant
State Ethics Commission

(803) 253-4192

Walker, Meghan

From: Steve Denton <sdenton@kdtriallawyers.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2026 9:53 AM
To: Walker, Meghan
Cc: Steve Denton; Laster, Courtney
Subject: [External] Hearing Scheduled for Charles Wright

Director Dayson,

This email will serve as my request to continue the hearing currently set for February 19, 2026. I believe the federal sentencing matter will be concluded by April.
The United States office of Probation and Parole are still conducting the pre-sentence report that the Court will use for sentencing purposes.
I would like to have a chance to look at the report prior to our hearing although frankly I believe Mr. Wright will enter into a consent order with your commission.

Thank you for considering my request. Please let me know if you need anything from me.

Kind Regards,

Steve Denton



Learn more about our law firm at kdtriallawyers.com

Please note our new website address and emails!

 **864-585-5100**  **864-542-2994**

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Instagram: [@kdtriallawyers](https://www.instagram.com/kdtriallawyers)

LinkedIn: [KD Trial Lawyers](https://www.linkedin.com/company/kd-trial-lawyers)

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

Kyle Joslin, Brittney Duncan, and
Nicholas Duncan

Complainant,

vs.

Charles Wright,

Respondent.

Case Numbers: C-2024-051
C-2024-055
C-2024-056
C-2024-089

**ORDER GRANTING RESPONDENT'S
MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE**

This matter comes before the State Ethics Commission (Commission) on Respondent Charles Wright's (Respondent) Motion to Continue (Motion) which was received by the Commission on January 22, 2026. Respondent requests that the hearing, originally scheduled for February 19, 2026, be continued to allow the United States Office of Probation and Parole to conclude the pre-sentence investigation and report for United States of America v. Charles Wright et. al.. Commission staff has no objection to this request.

The above-captioned hearing will be held on June 18, 2026.

And it is **SO ORDERED!**


F. Xavier Starkes
Chairman

January 23, 2026
Columbia, South Carolina.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
RECEIVED
02694140

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)

BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
Complaints C2024-051)
C2024-055)
C2024-056)

**ORDER GRANTING RESPONDENT'S
MOTION TO HOLD IN ABEYANCE**

Kyle Joslin, Brittney Duncan,)
and Nicholas Duncan)
Complainants.)

Charles "Chuck" Wright)
Respondent.)

The above-captioned matter was called for a hearing on June 18, 2026. Prior to the call of the case, Respondent's counsel moved to hold this matter in abeyance in light of Respondent's recent scheduled sentencing by the U.S. Government, 7:25CR-1143, United States of America vs. Charles Wright. Federal sentencing is scheduled for July 7, 2026. Commission staff stated no objection. This matter is hereby held in abeyance pending resolution of the U.S. Government's federal case.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 10th DAY OF June 2026.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION



HEARING CHAIR

Columbia, South Carolina

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA	)	
COUNTY OF RICHLAND	)	BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
	)	
	)	
IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	
Complaints C2024-051	)	
C2024-055	)	
C2024-056	)	
	)	
Kyle Joslin, Brittney Duncan,	)	4th AMENDED
and Nicholas Duncan	)	NOTICE OF HEARING
Complainants.	)	
	)	
Charles “Chuck” Wright	)	
Respondent.	)	
	)	

The State Ethics Commission has determined that there is probable cause pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, in the above-captioned complaints. The State Ethics Commission will, therefore, convene a formal hearing into the matters, in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10)(i) & (j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.) on Thursday, August 20, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. at the State Ethics Commission Hearing Room located at: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210.

The following allegations will be heard:

COUNT ONE
FAILURE TO RECUSE FROM A GOVERNMENTAL DECISION IN WHICH AN
FAMILY MEMBER HAS AN ECONOMIC INTEREST
SECTION 8-13-700(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Charles “Chuck” Wright, Spartanburg County Sheriff, did fail to recuse from the hiring process of his son as a deputy sheriff for the Spartanburg County Sheriff’s Office in July of 2024, in violation of Section 8-13-700(B).

COUNT TWO
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SECTION 8-13-750(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Charles "Chuck" Wright, Spartanburg County Sheriff, did appoint his son as a compensated deputy sheriff for the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office on July 1, 2024, in violation of Section 8-13-750(B).

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A pre-hearing conference may be scheduled prior to the hearing to allow exchange of witness lists and evidence, marking of exhibits, and disposition of motions or pleadings. In the event you fail to appear, judgment by default will be rendered against you. If there are any questions concerning the above notice or hearing times, please contact the State Ethics Commission.


Meghan Walker Dayson, Executive Director
State Ethics Commission

Dated this 13th day,
of July 2026.

Certificate of Service by Certified Mail

I hereby certify that a copy of this **4th AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING** was duly served on Respondent's Attorney Steve Denton, 178 W. Main Street, Spartanburg, SC 29306 by depositing said **4th AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING** in the United States mail, Columbia, South Carolina on this 13 day of July 2026, by CERTIFIED MAIL, E-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, appropriate postage affixed, and a return address clearly indicated on said envelope.

[Redacted Signature]

Marquita S. Kessler, Paralegal
State Ethics Commission

Columbia, South Carolina

(803) 253-4192