



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY McMASTER
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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Former Richland County Employee Indicted For Misconduct In Office

Columbia, S.C. – Attorney General Henry McMaster announced today that Deborah Phillips Oliver, 54, of 100 Wotan Drive in Columbia, was indicted by the state grand jury on one (1) count of Official Misconduct in Office on August 9, 2005.

According to the indictment, on or about January 1999 through on or about February 2004, and while serving in the position of Tax Processing Manager for the Richland County Treasurer's Office, Oliver did willfully and unlawfully commit acts in breach of her duties to the public. These acts of malfeasance, misfeasance, and nonfeasance included, but were not limited to the misappropriation of funds and/or the improper accounting of public funds.

Official Misconduct in Office is a violation of the common law, and carries a maximum penalty of ten (10) years imprisonment.

Richland County Treasurer David Adams requested an investigation of Oliver's activities from the State Law Enforcement Division. The Fifth Circuit Solicitor's Office participated with the Attorney General's Office in the state grand jury investigation.

A date for arraignment and bond hearing has not been set. McMaster stressed that all defendants are presumed innocent unless and until they are proven guilty in a court of law.

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