



**Statewide Pending General Sessions Warrants
as of January 1, 2025
Circuit Solicitor Data**

(Pursuant to 2024-2025 SC Appropriations Act, Part 1B)

** "ALL WARRANTS PENDING": The total number of warrants that is reported to the clerk of court as pending in a county/circuit. This includes warrants that remain on and are reported as pending on the docket but are associated with defendants actively participating in a diversion or drug/treatment court program, or have been transferred to another circuit or the Attorney General's Office.*

CIRCUIT/ COUNTY	FY 23 PENDING WARRANTS	FY 24 PENDING WARRANTS	FY 25 PENDING WARRANTS AS OF <u>JANUARY 1, 2025</u>			
	ALL WARRANTS PENDING ON 7/1/2023*	ALL WARRANTS PENDING ON 7/1/2024*	ALL WARRANTS PENDING ON 1/1/2025*	# OF WARRANTS PENDING ON 1/1/2025 AGED 365 DAYS OR LESS	# OF WARRANTS PENDING ON 1/1/2025 AGED 366-544 DAYS	# OF WARRANTS PENDING ON 1/1/2025 AGED 545 DAYS OR MORE
1st CIRCUIT						
Calhoun	578	581	533	275	70	188
Dorchester	2,899	2,851	2,547	1,530	365	652
Orangeburg	2,623	3,218	2,963	1,492	430	1,041
Circuit Totals	6,100	6,650	6,043	3,297	865	1,881
2nd CIRCUIT						
Aiken	5,917	6,146	6,082	2,434	840	2,808
Bamberg	761	716	842	395	130	317
Barnwell	1,394	1,690	1,602	709	194	699
Circuit Totals	8,072	8,552	8,526	3,538	1,164	3,824
3rd CIRCUIT						
Clarendon	1,067	1,159	815	441	122	252
Lee	584	1,752	578	257	52	269
Sumter	6,676	6,467	6,549	2,142	665	3,742
Williamsburg	1,051	1,502	1,166	581	181	404
Circuit Totals	9,378	10,880	9,108	3,421	1,020	4,667
4th CIRCUIT						
Chesterfield	2,998	2,785	2,739	945	320	1,474
Darlington	3,695	4,137	3,926	1,251	471	2,204
Dillon	1,303	1,367	1,671	618	173	880
Marlboro	1,244	919	738	273	85	380
Circuit Totals	9,240	9,208	9,074	3,087	1,049	4,938
5th CIRCUIT						
Kershaw	4,270	4,057	3,884	1,222	367	2,295
Richland	16,635	17,755	18,151	8,371	2,493	7,287
Circuit Totals	20,905	21,812	22,035	9,593	2,860	9,582
6th CIRCUIT						
Chester	1,459	1,650	1,650	748	224	678
Fairfield	905	867	848	451	113	284
Lancaster	6,135	6,279	5,957	1,864	786	3,307
Circuit Totals	8,499	8,796	8,455	3,063	1,123	4,269
7th CIRCUIT						
Cherokee	2,697	2,482	2,379	1,176	971	232
Spartanburg	9,711	8,949	9,069	5,162	3,154	753
Circuit Totals	12,408	11,431	11,448	6,338	4,125	985



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8th CIRCUIT						
Abbeville	847	926	797	427	131	239
Greenwood	4,308	4,529	4,620	2,224	687	1,709
Laurens	4,141	4,122	3,957	1,644	745	1,568
Newberry	1,693	1,838	1,802	634	412	756
Circuit Totals	10,989	11,415	11,176	4,929	1,975	4,272
9th CIRCUIT						
Berkeley	6,632	6,105	6,077	2,969	842	2,266
Charleston	13,716	14,025	14,805	6,566	2,060	6,179
Circuit Totals	20,348	20,130	20,882	9,535	2,902	8,445
10th CIRCUIT						
Anderson	3,094	3,509	3,605	2,635	483	487
Oconee	2,442	2,215	2,525	1,694	375	456
Circuit Totals	5,536	5,724	6,130	4,329	858	943
11th CIRCUIT						
Edgefield	694	488	908	435	189	284
Lexington	6,534	6,327	6,407	3,601	1,020	1,786
McCormick	251	223	522	264	102	156
Saluda	404	210	538	237	83	218
Circuit Totals	7,883	7,248	8,375	4,537	1,394	2,444
12th CIRCUIT						
Florence	6,895	6,845	7,108	3,235	908	2,965
Marion	1,358	1,212	1,055	560	122	373
Circuit Totals	8,253	8,057	8,163	3,795	1,030	3,338
13th CIRCUIT						
Greenville	18,115	17,244	20,176	12,294	3,060	4,822
Pickens	4,776	4,242	4,871	2,855	979	1,037
Circuit Totals	22,891	21,486	25,047	15,149	4,039	5,859
14th CIRCUIT						
Allendale	415	209	119	76	15	28
Beaufort	5,060	4,564	4,320	1,268	530	2,522
Colleton	1,831	1,168	943	401	158	384
Hampton	1,184	779	586	273	56	257
Jasper	1,824	1,631	1,431	539	205	687
Circuit Totals	10,314	8,351	7,399	2,557	964	3,878
15th CIRCUIT						
Georgetown	1,387	1,247	1,127	676	180	271
Horry	9,587	9,344	8,973	5,470	1,236	2,267
Circuit Totals	10,974	10,591	10,100	6,146	1,416	2,538



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16th CIRCUIT						
Union	1,389	1,045	1,141	734	162	245
York	5,923	4,807	4,549	3,472	401	676
Circuit Totals	7,312	5,852	5,690	4,206	563	921
STATEWIDE TOTALS	179,102	176,183	177,651	87,520	27,347	62,784



**Statewide Circuit Solicitor
Attorney Staffing
as of January 1, 2025**

CIRCUIT	<i>Full-time & part-time attorneys counted once for the court/role in which most time is spent</i>							EXPERIENCE: # of years worked as a licensed practicing lawyer, including before joining a solicitor's office)						# Grant-Funded Attorneys <i>(portion of total attorneys)</i>	# Part-time Attorneys <i>(portion of total attorneys)</i>	# Full-time Attorneys <i>(excludes elected solicitor)</i>	# Funded Attorney Vacancies	# Unfunded Attorney Vacancies
	Elected Solicitor	General Sessions	Common Pleas <i>(forfeitures; magistrate appeals)</i>	Summary Court <i>(magistrate & city courts)</i>	Family Court	Administrative Attorneys <i>(not appearing in court)</i>	TOTAL ATTORNEYS <i>(excludes elected solicitor)</i>	< 5 yrs. Experience	5-9 yrs. Experience	10-14 yrs. Experience	15 - 19 yrs. Experience	20+ yrs. Experience	TOTAL ATTORNEYS <i>(excludes elected solicitor)</i>					
1	1	14	1	0	2	0	17	8	1	3	2	3	17	0	0	17	3	3
2	1	12	0	2	1	0	15	2	5	1	2	5	15	0	0	15	4	0
3	1	8	0	0	1	0	9	1	1	1	2	4	9	0	0	9	5	0
4	1	13	0	0	2	1	16	2	1	2	5	6	16	0	5	11	1	2
5	1	37	0	2	2	0	41	14	7	6	7	7	41	2	1	40	3	0
6	1	20	0	0	0	0	20	4	2	5	2	7	20	2	3	17	2	0
7	1	32	0	0	1	0	33	13	4	4	3	9	33	1	0	33	3	2
8	1	15	0	0	1	0	16	3	2	5	1	5	16	2	0	16	3	0
9	1	55	0	0	6	0	61	22	16	7	8	8	61	0	2	59	4	0
10	1	15	0	1	2	1	19	3	2	3	1	10	19	0	2	17	3	1
11	1	25	0	4	2	0	31	10	9	3	1	8	31	2	2	29	5	0
12	1	12	0	0	1	0	13	5	1	1	2	4	13	2	0	13	3	2
13	1	47	1	4	3	0	55	8	25	9	4	9	55	0	1	54	5	0
14	1	24	0	0	1	0	25	11	2	2	2	8	25	3	1	24	2	4
15	1	29	1	3	3	0	36	15	4	5	4	8	36	2	0	36	1	0
16	1	24	0	2	2	0	28	10	3	7	3	5	28	0	1	27	6	0
1/1/2025 TOTAL	16	382	3	18	30	2	435	131	85	64	49	106	435	16	18	417	53	14
7/1/2024 TOTAL	16	366	3	18	28	4	419	125	87	62	45	100	419	15	30	389	42	12
7/14/2023 TOTAL	16	343	3	13	26	5	390	107	84	61	45	93	390	18	26	364	44	18



**Offices of Circuit Solicitor
Prosecutor Recruitment and Retention Statistics**

Judicial Circuit and Counties	# Attorney Hiring Goal (reported 7/14/2023)	Total Attorneys as of 7/14/2023 (excludes elected solicitor)	Total Attorneys as of 7/1/2024 (excludes elected solicitor)	Total Attorneys as of 1/1/2025 (excludes elected solicitor)	# Attorneys Hired Between 7/2/2024-1/1/2025	Total Attorneys Hired FY 23 - 1/1/2025	# Attorneys that Left Office Between 7/2/2024-1/1/2025	Total Attorneys that Left Office FY 23 - 1/1/2025	Total Attorney Increase / (Decrease) between FY 23 - 1/1/2025
1ST CIRCUIT <i>Calhoun, Dorchester, Orangeburg</i>	5	17	19	17	4	13	6	10	3
2ND CIRCUIT <i>Aiken, Bamberg, Barnwell</i>	6	13	14	15	2	6	1	5	1
3RD CIRCUIT <i>Clarendon, Lee, Sumter, Williamsburg</i>	7	12	9	9	1	11	1	8	3
4TH CIRCUIT <i>Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Marlboro</i>	4	12	16	16	1	6	1	2	4
5TH CIRCUIT <i>Kershaw, Richland</i>	4	36	38	41	5	16	2	11	5
6TH CIRCUIT <i>Chester, Fairfield, Lancaster</i>	4	15	19	20	4	14	3	10	4
7TH CIRCUIT <i>Cherokee, Spartanburg</i>	4	25	30	33	5	14	2	8	6
8TH CIRCUIT <i>Abbeville, Greenwood, Laurens, Newberry</i>	4	15	15	16	2	7	1	6	1
9TH CIRCUIT <i>Berkeley, Charleston</i>	5	58	60	61	3	23	2	21	2
10TH CIRCUIT <i>Anderson, Oconee</i>	4	18	19	19	2	8	2	7	1
11TH CIRCUIT <i>Edgefield, Lexington, McCormick, Saluda</i>	4	25	30	31	4	11	3	8	3
12TH CIRCUIT <i>Florence, Marion</i>	6	10	13	13	0	4	0	3	1
13TH CIRCUIT <i>Greenville, Pickens</i>	7	50	54	55	5	20	4	16	4
14TH CIRCUIT <i>Allendale, Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper</i>	7	22	22	25	3	16	0	10	6
15TH CIRCUIT <i>Georgetown, Horry</i>	4	33	33	36	6	16	3	14	2
16TH CIRCUIT <i>Union, York</i>	4	30	28	28	2	8	2	9	-1
Statewide Totals	79	391	419	435	49	193	33	148	45



**Offices of Circuit Solicitor
Prosecutor Recruitment and Retention Strategies
January 1, 2025**

Judicial Circuit and Counties	Steps Taken to Hire and Retain Attorneys (Including utilization of state funding for Attorney Recruitment and Retention, and an explanation of how recruitment and retention measures will go towards reducing the number and age of pending warrants)
<p style="text-align: center;">1ST CIRCUIT <i>Calhoun, Dorchester, Orangeburg</i></p>	<p>We have worked carefully to use our State funding for Attorney Recruitment in order to recruit talented, new Assistant Solicitors as well as well-seasoned attorneys within the State. Additionally, we have used the State retention funds to supplement the salaries of the Assistant Solicitors who are currently employed by our office. The State provided funds has allowed us to keep our salaries competitive when compared to our surrounding well-funded Circuits. By recruiting additional lawyers and retaining experienced lawyers we are able to continue to work towards advancing any backlog of pending matters.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">2ND CIRCUIT <i>Aiken, Bamberg, Barnwell</i></p>	<p>*Used state funding to increase starting salaries for newly hired attorneys. *Hiring of new attorneys has allowed our office to dedicate an Assistant Solicitor position that is tasked with identifying incarcerated defendants with "easy to resolve" cases.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">3RD CIRCUIT <i>Clarendon, Lee, Sumter, Williamsburg</i></p>	<p>Job opportunities have been posted with Indeed, National District Attorneys Association, Zip Recruiter, SC Bar website, SCCPC website, and our county website. Current attorneys were given increases in order to retain experience.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">4TH CIRCUIT <i>Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Marlboro</i></p>	<p>Salary increase and incentives (gas card, vehicle, telework days) for attorneys. Available positions posted on our website and ZipRecruiter.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">5TH CIRCUIT <i>Kershaw, Richland</i></p>	<p>Increased starting salaries have allowed us to recruit and hire new attorneys that would likely have taken other types of jobs. An increase in the frequency and amount of raises available to current staff has enabled us to retain quality, experienced personnel. The increased number of attorneys working, and staying, in this office, especially those with significant experience, will allow us to attack the backlog in an efficient manner. This, in turn, will cause both the age and number of pending warrants to be reduced over time.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">6TH CIRCUIT <i>Chester, Fairfield, Lancaster</i></p>	<p>For the most part, our efforts to retain current talent have been fruitful. With help from local governments, we've been able to maintain our current career ladder and offer other benefits unique to our circuit. Although we've hired several new attorneys, recruiting remains difficult in this rural circuit. We've attended job fairs all over the Southeast and will continue to do so. We offer a benefits package that is unmatched by any other law office. We will continue aggressively recruiting in the upcoming months to try to fill all open vacancies.</p>



**Offices of Circuit Solicitor
Prosecutor Recruitment and Retention Strategies
January 1, 2025**

Judicial Circuit and Counties	Steps Taken to Hire and Retain Attorneys (Including utilization of state funding for Attorney Recruitment and Retention, and an explanation of how recruitment and retention measures will go towards reducing the number and age of pending warrants)
<p style="text-align: center;">7TH CIRCUIT <i>Cherokee, Spartanburg</i></p>	<p>We continue our practice as outlined in previous years and it has allowed us to retain our prosecutors. We look to have an additional 2 attorneys starting with us in the next few months.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">8TH CIRCUIT <i>Abbeville, Greenwood, Laurens, Newberry</i></p>	<p>The 8th Circuit was able to give significant merit raises to our prosecutors. We increased the starting salaries and our salary ranges are now much more competitive. Our most experienced people, who also handle the largest caseloads and most critical cases, are much less likely to be lured away by private firms and other government agencies.</p> <p>We developed a recruitment strategy focusing on younger attorneys that can be trained by experienced attorneys to take lower end of the docket cases. This helps to lower prosecutor caseloads and move cases more efficiently.</p> <p>We have conducted on campus interviews at USC Law School, which resulted in two new hire commitments. We also participated in job fairs hosted by the NDAA in Washington, D.C., the SCCP and USC Law School in Columbia, and the Southeast Prosecutor job fair in Nashville.</p> <p>We are also using social media more extensively to advertise prosecutor positions and actively reaching out to law clerks and law students.</p> <p>We made a recruitment video called "Why the 8th Circuit?" that highlights our counties and what each area has to offer.</p> <p>We have three new hires that will start in 2025.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">9TH CIRCUIT <i>Berkeley, Charleston</i></p>	<p>We have enacted merit, retention raises in an effort to capitalize on our training investments of newer attorneys and to retain seasoned prosecutors. We have worked with Berkeley County in conducting a comprehensive salary study that has brought Berkeley County into a more competitive position. Unfortunately, the “new” money created a bidding war amongst solicitors’ offices and between solicitors’ offices and public defender’s offices. This has presented a challenge for all of us, but it has created fairer compensation and competition in the marketplace.</p>



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Prosecutor Recruitment and Retention Strategies
January 1, 2025**

Judicial Circuit and Counties	Steps Taken to Hire and Retain Attorneys (Including utilization of state funding for Attorney Recruitment and Retention, and an explanation of how recruitment and retention measures will go towards reducing the number and age of pending warrants)
10TH CIRCUIT <i>Anderson, Oconee</i>	<p>Attorney positions are posted on both our Circuit County websites and we continue to advertise attorney positions on other social media platforms. We also engage in social networking within the legal community. We will be able to assign attorneys specifically to other courts other than General Sessions such that no General Sessions attorney will be expected to attend court elsewhere during a General Sessions term. Increasing the number of prosecutors will also decrease the case loads and this will enhance the consistency of our General Sessions team. We can also expand the number of hours dedicated to dealing with new cases quickly and can expand early inquiry into more complex and serious cases early on in our largest county and bring some of these methods to our smaller county. We hope to reduce turnover with retention funds. Not only is it necessary to increase our pay scale to compete with private practice options, our circuit is located beside another, better funded circuit. We have not only lost assistant solicitors to private practice, but also other government jobs.</p>
11TH CIRCUIT <i>Edgefield, Lexington, McCormick, Saluda</i>	<p>The 11th Circuit used market data to determine salary ranges for existing and new attorneys to be competitive within the circuit. The retention of attorneys allowed the 11th circuit to maintain valuable knowledge in processing warrants while training new attorneys in how to adjudicate warrants in a timely manner.</p>
12TH CIRCUIT <i>Florence, Marion</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Advertising attorney vacancies through USC and Charleston School of Law. *Advertising attorney vacancies through Florence County Human Resources. *Attend Job Fairs an Law Schools to recruit potential candidates. *Lobbying visiting judges for possible Clerk candidates to fill vacancies. *Adjusted salaries of Asst. Solicitors to help insure retention in a very competitive market.
13TH CIRCUIT <i>Greenville, Pickens</i>	<p>Our vacant attorney positions are being advertised on multiple social media platforms and we are conducting on-campus/virtual interviews with the law schools. We have increased our starting salaries and provided retention bonuses to all attorneys in the office. We also offer specialized CLE training opportunities and expanded management/leadership opportunities in the office for career development progression.</p>
14TH CIRCUIT <i>Allendale, Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper</i>	<p>In addition to hiring three new attorneys since the start of FY2025, a fourth awaits bar results and is not reflected in this report's totals. New hires go through an intensive, in-house training program. We also participate in job fairs, advertise positions on our website, social media channels and job boards. We enhance retention by adopting pay structure modeled on U.S. Attorney's Office scale.</p>



**Offices of Circuit Solicitor
Prosecutor Recruitment and Retention Strategies
January 1, 2025**

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<p style="text-align: center;">15TH CIRCUIT <i>Georgetown, Horry</i></p>	<p>Utilizing state funding for attorney recruitment and retention has enabled us to hire experienced attorneys at competitive pay rates comparable to the private sector. Additionally, we actively participate in job fairs and law school events to promote our competitive starting salary and benefits package. These efforts have strengthened our team, allowing us to process cases more efficiently and reduce both the number and age of pending warrants.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">16TH CIRCUIT <i>Union, York</i></p>	<p>Since August 2024, we have made an offer to one current law school graduate who will join our office this summer as an intern and will become an Assistant Solicitor after successful passage of the Bar.</p> <p>We continue to pursue every recruitment opportunity and continue our commitment to retaining existing attorneys. We post vacancies with our county human resources as well as with many law school placement offices. We have purchased marketing items to boost our in-person recruitment at state and regional recruitment fairs (including NDAA). To retain our current employees, we have increased compensation among our experienced attorneys so that it is commensurate with like positions in similar offices.</p> <p>New attorneys are mentored and trained under a Senior Solicitor on our office’s procedures and case management process. We continue to collaborate with the Circuit Defender to triage jail cases to quickly dispose of cases that are not complex. We also triage non-jail cases to identify cases for diversions or plea. These efforts have resulted in our office moving over 500 more cases than were filed last year and our pending case inventory is approximately where it was pre-Covid. We still have work to do to reduce our pending trial caseload, but we are making progress with steady improvement in reducing pending cases over 365 days old. We are currently tied for first place in the state in terms of the least number of cases over 365 days old. We are working with our new Chief Admin Judge to conduct status conferences on all older cases to encourage dispositions, so we expect that our numbers will only continue to improve over the next 6 months.</p> <p>The challenges going forward will be in filling some of the vacancies we carry. We have a stable of very capable attorneys who have significant experience, but it is important to constantly recruit and train the next generation of professionals interested in a career in prosecution.</p>