

Legal notices

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF KERSHAW
Road/Route Road S-12 (Black River Rd.) Corridor Improvement
Project ID No. P038251
Tract 61
South Carolina Department of Transportation
Condemnor,

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
C/A NO. 2026-CP-28-00251

PUBLICATION

VS.
Estate of Clifford M. Leonard a/k/a Clifford Leonard a/k/a Clifford Leonard, Jr., deceased, Clifford Leonard, Jr., Trust, Dated May 10, 1991, and VLB Properties, LLC, Landowner(s),
and Bland Byrne a/k/a Granville Bland Byrne, III, as personal representative of the Estate of Clifford M. Leonard a/k/a Clifford Leonard a/k/a Clifford Leonard, Jr., and Unknown Trustee of the Clifford Leonard, Jr., Trust, Dated May 10, 1991, as interest may appear, Other Condemnee(s)
and John Doe and Mary Roe, representing all unknown persons, having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in or to, or lien on the lands described herein, including all unknown heirs of Clifford M. Leonard a/k/a Clifford Leonard a/k/a Clifford Leonard, Jr., deceased, Unknown Claimant(s).

SUMMONS & NOTICE OF FILING

TO: THE LANDOWNER(S), OTHER CONDEMNEE(S) AND UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS ABOVE NAMED:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED, advised and notified, that pursuant to the South Carolina Eminent Domain Procedures Act, Section 28-2-10, et seq., the within Condemnation Notice and Tender of Payment, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, has been filed with the Clerk of Court for Kershaw County. The purpose of this lawsuit is to enable the Condemnor, the South Carolina Department of Transportation, to acquire certain real property for its public purposes, as is more fully stated in the attached Condemnation Notice and Tender of Payment. Responsive pleadings to the Condemnation Notice and Tender of Payment are not necessary.

LIS PENDENS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Condemnor above named pursuant to the South Carolina Eminent Domain Procedures Act, Section 28-2-10, et seq., of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, has brought an action against the Condemnee(s) above named to acquire the real property described herein for public purposes, to-wit:

All that parcel or strip of land, in fee simple, with improvements thereon, if any containing 0.034 acres (1,487 square feet) more or less, and being described as follows: Within 45 feet of the survey centerline at S-12 (Black River Road), on the right, between approximate survey stations 11+44.97 and 13+32 and within 40 feet of the survey centerline at U.S. 521 North Bound, on the left, between approximate survey stations 75+28.42 and 75+45.53.

Tax Map Number C299-13-00-011

The property sought herein is to be acquired for public purposes, more particularly for the construction of a section of Road S-12 (Black River Rd.) Corridor Improvement.

NOTICE OF ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN AD LITEM NISI

TO: THE CONDEMNEE(S) OR CLAIMANT(S) HEREIN, NAMES AND ADDRESSES UNKNOWN, INCLUDING ANY THEREOF WHO MAY BE MINORS OR UNDER OTHER LEGAL DISABILITY, IF ANY, WHETHER RESIDENTS OR NON-RESIDENTS OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO THE NATURAL, GENERAL, TESTAMENTARY GUARDIAN OR COMMITTEE, OR OTHERWISE AND TO THE PERSON WITH WHOM THEY MAY RESIDE, IF ANY THERE BE:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the order appointing Charles T. Brooks, III, Esquire, as Guardian ad Litem Nisi, for all persons whomsoever herein collectively designated as John Doe and Mary Roe, Condemnee(s) herein, names and addresses unknown, including any thereof who may be minors or under other legal disability, whether residents or non-residents of South Carolina, has been filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for KERSHAW County.

YOU WILL FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that unless the said minors or persons under other legal disability, if any, or someone on their behalf or on behalf of any of them, shall within thirty (30) days after service of notice of this order upon them by publication, exclusive of the day of such service, procure to be appointed for them, or any of them, a Guardian ad Litem to represent them for the purposes of this action, the Condemnor will apply for an order making the appointment of said Guardian ad Litem Nisi absolute.

KNE 3x 3/18, 3/25, 4/1/26

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF KERSHAW
Road/Route Road S-12 (Black River Rd.) Corridor Improvement
Project ID No. P038251
Tract 11
South Carolina Department of Transportation
Condemnor,

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
C/A NO. 2026-CP-28-00248

PUBLICATION

VS.
Marvin Saunders and Gwendolyn Nicks, as joint tenants with rights of survivorship and not as tenants in common, Landowner(s),
and Kershaw County Treasurer, Unpaid Taxes, Other Condemnee(s).

LIS PENDENS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Condemnor above named pursuant to the South Carolina Eminent Domain Procedures Act, Section 28-2-10, et seq., of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, has brought an action against the Condemnee(s) above named to acquire the real property described herein for public purposes, to-wit:

All that parcel or strip of land, in fee simple, with improvements thereon, if any containing 0.009 acres (375 square feet) more or less, and being described as follows: Within 40 feet of the survey centerline of S-12 (Black River Road), on the left, between approximate survey stations 27+98.65 and 28+50.

Tax Map Number 299-13-00-010

The property sought herein is to be acquired for public purposes, more particularly for the construction of a section of Road S-12 (Black River Rd.) Corridor Improvement

SUMMONS & NOTICE OF FILING

TO: THE LANDOWNER(S) AND OTHER CONDEMNEE(S) ABOVE NAMED:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED, advised and notified, that pursuant to the South Carolina Eminent Domain Procedures Act, Section 28-2-10, et seq., the within Condemnation Notice and Tender of Payment, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, has been filed with the Clerk of Court for Kershaw County. The purpose of this lawsuit is to enable the Condemnor, the South Carolina Department of Transportation, to acquire certain real property for its public purposes, as is more fully stated in the attached Condemnation Notice and Tender of Payment. Responsive pleadings to the Condemnation Notice and Tender of Payment are not necessary.

KNE 3x 3/18, 3/25, 4/1/26

SC Candidates File continued from page 8

analyst for the U.S. House Agriculture Committee, joins four other Republicans wanting to run the state Department of Agriculture.

He is the third candidate for commissioner from Clarendon County.

Blanding, 29, said his family's roots in farming go back to his great-great-great-grandfather, a freed slave who started a small farm in Clarendon County. His son grew that into a 400-acre farm but lost it during the Great Depression. Blanding's great-grandfather was able to get some of that

land back, but the family farm suffered another blow when Blanding's grandfather died of a heart attack at age 56.

Blanding said his grandfather urged his children not to follow in his footsteps because of the discrimination he'd faced, and after his death in the 1990s, the family sold their livestock and farming equipment.

Blanding said family members have told him that his grandfather struggled to get loans for new equipment because of racial discrimination and was often offered lower prices on his products than white farmers.

Three years ago, Blanding moved back to Manning from Washington, D.C., in the hopes of restarting the family farm.

Though he's new to farm work, Blanding said he has the experience needed from his work on the most recent federal farm bill as a policy analyst as well as drafting agriculture-related legislation in a Republican-controlled U.S. House.

As commissioner, Blanding said he'd advocate for legislation that would incentivize and help fund the opening of new processing facilities in the state. He said enough places to sell their crops as processing plants they have relied on close down.

The two other generational farmers from Clarendon County are former Trump Simpson and Turbeville farmer Jeremy Cannon. The other announced Republicans are Danny Ford II, son of the legendary Clemson University football coach, and Fred West, director of market development for the Department of Agriculture.

His candidacy was endorsed by Weathers last year.

Gubernatorial and AG races since 2010 with no incumbent on the ballot for governor or attorney general. That's when then-Rep. Nikki Haley

was elected South Carolina's governor and when voters general.

Two Democrats have announced bids to replace McMaster in the Governor's Mansion: state Rep. Jermaine Johnson of Hopkins and Charleston attorney Mullins McLeod.

Democrat elected governor since 1998, when Jim Hodges ousted GOP Gov. David Beasley. No Democrat has won the party primary in Carolina since 2006.

Three Republicans have announced bids to replace Wilson as the state's chief prosecutor.

Five Democrats and two Republicans say they're challenging U.S. Sen. Lindsey O'Rourke to the job in 2022.

Dorchester and Orangeburg Counties and High Circuit Court prosecutor for Abbeville, Oconee, Greenwood, Newberry and Laurens counties.

Pascoe, who switched parties last April after two decades as a Democratic solicitor, is running to the right of his opponents.

Candidates must pay up all candidates on June 15, 1% of the salary for the entire term of the job they're seeking. The money goes toward funding the party primaries.

The most expensive fee — \$10,440 — is for the U.S. Senate race. Candidates for the state House pay the least, at \$208.

Five Democrats and two Republicans say they're challenging U.S. Sen. Lindsey O'Rourke to the job in 2022.

More safeguards needed to protect SC families from AI exploitation

Randy Page

More than many of our laws can keep up.

While these technologies hold tremendous promise, they are also creating serious risks that policymakers cannot afford to ignore, especially when it comes to the safety of women and children.

One of the most troubling developments is the growing use of AI tools to generate explicit images using real photographs of people without their knowledge or consent.

These images may be fabricated, but the harm they cause is real.

Once created, they can spread quickly online, leaving victims with humiliation, harassment, and long-lasting emotional damage that is nearly impossible to undo. This has become a growing problem in schools and homes across our state. And we are now seeing the consequences.

Here in South Carolina, authorities are investigating a disturbing incident involving several high school girls whose faces were reportedly used to create AI-generated nude images that circulated among students online.

What begins as a digital manipulation can quickly become public humiliation for young victims, spreading across social media and following them long after the original images appear.

Over the past few months, national reporting has raised growing concerns about AI systems intelligence tool integrated into the platform.

Investigations have found that the system has at times been capable of generating sexualized imagery involving women and minors with limited safeguards in place.

When tools capable of producing vast numbers of images are released without meaningful guardrails, predictable abuse follows.

For women and girls, the implications are deeply troubling. A simple photograph shared online — whether on social media, a school website, or a family page — can now be manipulated into explicit content in seconds.

Once that content spreads, victims often have little ability to stop it.

Making matters worse, the burden is placed on parents, who must worry that an innocent picture of their child could be turned into sexualized content by a bad actor using an AI system.

Technology companies developing these powerful systems have a responsibility to prevent that kind of exploitation. But when safeguards fail, our leaders must step in.

South Carolina has the opportunity to lead on this issue. Our state has long taken seriously its responsibility to protect families and vulnerable individuals from exploitation, and that commitment must extend into the digital world as new technologies create new threats.

AI plays a critical role in that effort.

As the state's chief law enforcement authority, the attorney general can evaluate whether emerging technologies are operating within existing laws related to exploitation, obscenity, and consumer protection, and whether enforcement action may be warranted when safeguards fail.

At the same time, state legislators have an opportunity to ensure that South Carolina's laws keep pace with rapidly evolving technology.

Clearer guardrails and stronger protections can help ensure that powerful AI systems cannot be easily misused to exploit women or target children.

This is not about restricting legitimate innovation or undermining free speech.

South Carolina values both technological progress and constitutional freedoms. But those values do not require us to accept technologies that can be weaponized against our children.

I think that any of our leaders knows there is a clear difference between responsible innovation and tools that can be used to harm others.

The recent incident involving South Carolina high school students should serve as a wake-up call.

Without stronger safeguards and clear accountability, these technologies will continue to be misused, harming young people and families.

EPA logo and text: EPA Announces the Availability of the Administrative Record for the Timrod Road Mercury Site in Bethune, Kershaw County, South Carolina. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has selected a removal action for Timrod Road Mercury Site (the Site) located in Bethune, Kershaw County, South Carolina. On November 6, 2025, a mercury switch broke inside a home and mercury spread across the wooden floor. The local fire department attempted to clean the mercury but did not have a dedicated spill kit. Kershaw county and the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) were also involved in addressing the mercury spill but neither agency had the appropriate equipment to determine whether mercury beads or vapors were present in the home. EPA spoke with SCDES and the homeowner confirming the spill was mercury. EPA team was mobilized and provided the homeowner with instructions on covering the impacted areas and isolating potentially affected items until their arrival. On November 7, 2025, the team arrived and assessed the house and vehicles to evaluate the extent of contamination and determine whether additional cleanup was necessary. Mercury was visible at the location where the mercury switch broke and inside the garage. Potentially contaminated items were bagged. Plastic sheeting and ventilation was installed to isolate the spill area from the rest of the home, as vapor levels were elevated in that location. Decontamination and cleaning were completed on November 9, 2025. Personal items were either decontaminated or disposed of if physical contamination remained. EPA also met with the fire department to screen footwear and materials used during the cleanup for potential contamination. EPA conducted an Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) approved testing for mercury vapor. On November 10, 2025, all areas of the house passed the ATSDR mercury vapor testing for a residential property. The public can view the Administrative Record online at: https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/CurSites/cadminrecord.cfm?id=0421245&doc=Y&colid=68170. For further information, please contact Zariah Lewis, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator at (404) 562-8342 or via email at lewis.zariah@epa.gov. The EPA On-Scene Coordinator, Kevin Eichinger, may be contacted for additional Site information at 404-562-8268 or via email at eichinger.kevin@epa.gov. KNE 1x 3/18/26

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