

State of South Carolina



Charleston County
101 Meeting Street, Suite 400
Charleston, SC 29401
Phone (843) 958-1900
Fax (843) 958-1905

Berkeley County
300-B California Avenue
Moncks Corner, SC 29461
Phone (843) 723-3800 ext. 4529
Fax (843) 719-4588

SCARLETT A. WILSON

Solicitor, Ninth Judicial Circuit

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Contact: Ashley Kay
kaya@scsolicitor9.org

REPEAT OFFENDER GETS PRISON TIME FOR STEALING FROM YACHT CLUB

Charleston, SC-- Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson announced that Defendant Debbie Collins pled guilty to Breach of Trust, less than \$10,000, on October 13, 2026, in lieu of facing a jury trial. The Honorable J. Derham Cole sentenced the defendant to five years, suspended upon the service of eighteen months in prison and followed by probation for 3 years. Defendant was also ordered to pay restitution.

Ms. Collins was employed as the office manager at the Charleston Yacht Club from November 2018 to February 2020. As part of her duties, she had access to the Club's credit cards for business purposes, and she was entrusted with printing the credit card statements and providing them to the bookkeeper for payment. She also provided receipts to the bookkeeper that corresponded with the various purchases made on the credit cards.

The Yacht Club bookkeeper discovered the defendant was using the Club's credit cards for her own personal purchases and hiding the purchases by creating false invoices and altering the credit card statements. In early 2020, after becoming suspicious of some of the card transactions, the bookkeeper obtained a copy of the latest credit card statement directly from the credit card company. She then compared it to the credit card statement provided by the defendant for payment. The two were not the same. Ms. Collins had altered the payee descriptions on credit card statements to hide her fraudulent use of the card. Ms. Collins also provided fake purchase receipts from various businesses to further hide her fraud. The fraudulent purchases included multiple airline tickets for defendant and a relative, hotel purchases, car repairs and Amazon purchases shipped to defendant and the relative. Upon being confronted by Club management, Defendant admitted using the card. Defendant was terminated and Charleston Police Department investigated the theft.

Defendant's prior criminal history includes these convictions:

- 2014 Breach of Trust, value over \$10,000
- 2019 Financial Identity Fraud

Managing Assistant Solicitor Marian Askins prosecuted the case, with the assistance of Investigators Jennifer Hall and Justin Infinger.

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