



# News Release

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL ALAN WILSON  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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## **Florence Man Arrested for Soliciting a Minor for Sex**

**(COLUMBIA, S.C.)** South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson announced the arrest of Stephen Alexander Steele (DOB: 10/12/1994) of Florence, S.C. on one (1) count of soliciting a minor for sex. The Florence County Sheriff's Office, a member of the Attorney General's Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, made the arrest. Authorities in Hanover County, Va., assisted with the investigation.

Investigators say Steele contacted a minor living in Virginia last October. For seven days, he engaged in sexually graphic conversations with the victim, even after learning the minor's age.

Steele was charged with one (1) count of Criminal Solicitation of a Minor (§16-15-342), a felony offense punishable by up to ten (10) years imprisonment and Sex Offender Registry. A laptop and other electronic equipment were seized for forensic examination.

The case will be prosecuted by the Attorney General's Office.

Attorney General Wilson stressed all defendants are presumed innocent unless and until they are proven guilty in a court of law.

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