State of South Carolina Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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Pickens County Courthouse 214 E. Main St., B-220 Pickens, SC 29671

Solicitor
W. Walter Wilkins

PRESS RELEASE

April 6, 2011

Liberty High School Principal Charged

Randy S. Gilstrap, Principal of Liberty High School in Pickens County, SC, has been charged with stealing public funds from Liberty High School.

Gilstrap was arrested today and charged with breach of trust with fraudulent intent in excess of \$10,000, embezzlement of public funds in excess of \$10,000, and financial transaction card fraud. It is alleged that between November, 2008 and February, 2011, while employed as Liberty High's Principal, Gilstrap diverted over \$10,000 from the school and utilized those funds for his own benefit. It has also been alleged that, over a six month time period immediately preceding his February, 2011 suspension, Gilstrap made unauthorized personal purchases totaling over \$500 using credit cards issued by the School District of Pickens County.

This arrest came after a lengthy and thorough investigation of Gilstrap conducted by the Liberty Police Department, Pickens County Sheriff's Office, State Law Enforcement Division, and the 13th Circuit Solicitor's Office. The investigation into this matter is ongoing.