

STATE GRAND JURY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
)  
-VERSUS- )  
)  
JOHN E. COURSON )  
)  
DEFENDANT. )

**2017-GS-47-09**  
ETHICS ACT VIOLATION  
USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS FOR  
PERSONAL EXPENSES  
S.C. Code Ann. §8-13-1348(A)  
and §8-13-1520

At a session of the State Grand Jury of South Carolina, convened at Columbia, South Carolina, on this 14th day of March, 2017, the State Grand Jurors present upon their oath:

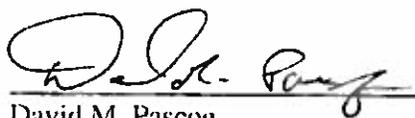
ETHICS ACT VIOLATION

USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS FOR PERSONAL EXPENSES  
S.C. Code Ann. §8-13-1348(A) and §8-13-1520

That on or about December 24, 2006 through on or about December 5, 2012, the Defendant, JOHN E. COURSON, in Richland County, knowingly did use campaign funds to defray personal expenses which were neither related to his campaign nor his office in the South Carolina Senate, and knowingly did convert campaign funds to personal use, to wit:

The Defendant unlawfully converted funds from his Senate campaign account to his personal use by passing approximately \$247,829.81 through multiple transactions from Defendant's campaign account to a political consulting firm, First Impressions, Inc. d/b/a Richard Quinn & Associates, who then paid approximately \$132,802.95 through multiple transactions to Defendant personally.

This in violation of §8-13-1348(A) and §8-13-1520 of the S.C. Code of Laws, as amended, and against the peace and dignity of the State and contrary to the law.

  
David M. Pascoe  
First Circuit Solicitor

**FILED** A TRUE Bill  


MAR 16 2017

JAMES R. PARKS  
CLERK, STATE GRAND JURY

STATE GRAND JURY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA	)	
	)	
-VERSUS-	)	2017-GS-47-07
	)	
JOHN E. COURSON	)	INDICTMENT FOR COMMON LAW
	)	MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE
	)	
DEFENDANT.	)	
	)	

---

At a session of the State Grand Jury of South Carolina, convened at Columbia, South Carolina, on this 14th day of March, 2017, the State Grand Jurors present upon their oath:

COMMON LAW MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE

That on or about December 24, 2006 through on or about December 5, 2012, in Richland County, and while an elected member of the South Carolina Senate, the Defendant, JOHN E. COURSON, willfully and dishonestly failed to properly and faithfully discharge the duties of his public office imposed upon him by law, to wit: by using the office and position of Senate Member and by using his campaign funds to obtain personal profit and benefit to himself, the Defendant did commit acts or omissions in breach of his duty of good faith and accountability to the public.

All against the peace and dignity of the State and in violation of the common law of South Carolina.

**FILED**

MAR 16 2017

JAMES R. PARKS  
CLERK, STATE GRAND JURY



David M. Pascoe  
First Circuit Solicitor

A TRUE

Bill



STATE GRAND JURY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
 -VERSUS- )  
 )  
 JOHN E. COURSON )  
 )  
 DEFENDANT. )  
 )  
 )

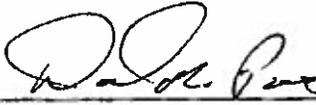
**2017-GS-47-08**  
INDICTMENT FOR MISCONDUCT IN  
OFFICE  
S.C. Code Ann. §8-1-80

At a session of the State Grand Jury of South Carolina, convened at Columbia, South Carolina, on this 14th day of March, 2017, the State Grand Jurors present upon their oath:

MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE  
S.C. Code Ann. §8-1-80

That on or about December 24, 2006 through on or about December 5, 2012, in Richland County, the Defendant, JOHN E. COURSON, a public officer, knowingly committed acts and omissions constituting official misconduct, fraud, corruption or habitual negligence, to wit: the Defendant, while an elected member of the South Carolina Senate and Candidate for State Office, did pass contributions to Defendant's Senate campaign fund through a political consulting firm, First Impressions, Inc. d/b/a Richard Quinn & Associates who then remitted funds to Defendant personally, converting campaign funds to personal use in order to obtain personal profit and benefit.

All against the peace and dignity of this State and in violation of §8-1-80, Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976), as amended.

  
David M. Pascoe  
First Circuit Solicitor

**FILED**

MAR 16 2017

JAMES R. PARKS  
CLERK, STATE GRAND JURY

A TRUE Bill  
