



Democrats dispute Trump’s crime claims

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Independent Mail

MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025 INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette speaks with Greenville News statehouse and politics reporter Bella Carpentier on Aug. 12 at the Greenville News office. ALEX MARTIN/GREENVILLE NEWS

‘I’m different from everybody else’

Pamela Evette talks about governor’s race

Bella Carpentier
Greenville News | USA TODAY NETWORK – SOUTH CAROLINA

Editor’s note: The Greenville News invited all current gubernatorial candidates to a sit-down interview on their campaigns and plans for South Carolina’s governor’s office.

South Carolina Lt. Gov. Pamela Evette officially launched her campaign for governor in Greenville, drawing an energized crowd who packed into Judson Mill on July 14 to hear her speak.

Evette, a Travelers Rest resident, was a business owner before she became the first Republican woman elected as lieutenant governor of South Carolina. She is competing in a packed Republican primary with four other candidates, all vying for their party’s nomination.

She said that her experience as a businesswoman, not as a career politician, sets her apart in the race for governor.

Who is Pamela Evette?

Evette, the granddaughter of Polish immigrants, was born in Ohio and earned a bachelor’s of business administration from Cleveland State University. She moved to Travelers Rest over 20 years ago — an area that she says has seen tremendous growth over the years.

“It’s amazing how much it’s changed,” Evette said. The lieutenant governor founded Quality Business Solutions, Inc., which is a payroll, benefits, and

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Roundtable brings together federal officials, SC lawmakers

Bella Carpentier
Greenville News | USA TODAY NETWORK – SOUTH CAROLINA

United States Attorney General Pam Bondi was in Greenville on August 14 for a meeting with the state attorney general, lawmakers and law enforcement on public safety threats.

Bondi traveled to South Carolina for a roundtable designed to strengthen the relationships between state and federal agencies, according to a press release by South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson’s office.

The roundtable touched on public safety topics like fentanyl trafficking, human trafficking, immigration enforcement, antisemitism, domestic terrorism and internet crimes against children, according to the state attorney general’s office.

“It was an honor to host Attorney General Pam Bondi this morning in Greenville, where federal, state, and local law enforcement came together to discuss human trafficking, drug trafficking, illegal immigration, and the alarming rise in acts of antisemitism,” Wilson said in a statement.

U.S. Attorney for the District of South Carolina Bryan Stirling and the Drug Enforcement Administration’s (DEA) Principal Deputy Administrator Robert Murphy were in attendance along with U.S. Representatives William Timmons, Sheri Biggs, Russell Fry and Joe Wilson.

“Never has there been a more united front between state and federal partners,” Wilson said in a statement. “And to the criminals and cartels in South Carolina - we’re coming for you.”

Timmons posted on social media about the visit, saying he was proud to welcome Bondi to South Carolina.

“From restoring the rule of law in DC, to securing our border, to helping the homeless — we are carrying out President Trump’s mission to keep America safe,” Timmons said on social media.

Bella Carpentier covers the South Carolina legislature, state, and Greenville County politics. Contact her at bcarpentier@gannett.com



Bondi

Border Patrol and ICE are rehiring retired employees

David Ulloa Jr.
Arizona Republic | USA TODAY NETWORK

PHOENIX – U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement are recruiting retired employees to return to work – with the opportunity to keep their full salary and pensions.

ICE employees were frustrated under the Biden administration because they felt they could not “do the jobs they signed up to do,” acting ICE Director Todd Lyons said in a July 31 news release. “Now, people are lining up to work with us because they know our officers

and agents are allowed to enforce immigration law fairly and across the board, and that’s a cause people really believe in.”

Border Patrol retirees have the experience needed “to address the challenges ahead,” Andrea Bright, CBP’s human resources management assistant commissioner, said in a July 30 news release.

It’s unclear what Bright meant by “the challenges ahead.”

If rehired, returning Border Patrol agents would be stationed in the Big Bend, Laredo or Rio Grande sectors along the Texas-Mexico border, according to Cus-

toms and Border Protection job postings. Agents could also get deployed to the Buffalo, Grand Forks, Havre, Houlton, Spokane or Swanton sectors on the United States-Canada border.

The Big Bend, Laredo and Rio Grande sectors saw a combined 81% drop in encounters under the Trump administration’s border and immigration crackdown compared with the first six months of 2024 during the Biden administration.

Overall, the total number of encounters at the

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Volume 126 | No. 242
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