

1981 WL 157802 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

June 1, 1981

***1 SUBJECT: Solicitation of business on public highways; traffic law enforcement.**

[Code Section 56-5-3180\(b\)](#) may be applicable in the situation where a private investigator appears at the scene of an accident on a public highway, without solicitation, involves himself in accident investigation and then proceeds to disseminate his business card.

TO: Commander of Highway Patrol

QUESTION:

Can a private investigator, who appears at the scene of an accident, engages in accident investigation and distributes his business card, be charged with [Code Section 56-5-3180\(b\)](#)?

OPINION:

[Code of Laws of South Carolina § 56-5-3180\(b\)](#) provides that no person shall stand on a highway for the purpose of soliciting employment, business or contributions from the occupant in any vehicle. It is the opinion of this office that this statute may be applicable in the situation where a private investigator appears at the scene of an accident on a public highway without solicitation, involves himself in accident investigation and then proceeds to disseminate his business card. These facts, as well as other situations, may, in fact, amount to solicitation in violation of that code section.

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