

1979 WL 42722 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

March 28, 1979

***1 RE: Deputy Sheriff for the Industrial Community of Piedmont**

Lt. Walter G. Powell
S. C. Law Enforcement Division
Criminal Intelligence Section
P.O. Box 21398
Columbia, South Carolina 29221

Dear Mr. Powell:

You have inquired as to whether a deputy sheriff can be appointed to have jurisdiction in an industrial community which is located in two counties.

The town of Piedmont is an unincorporated industrial community located in the counties of Greenville and Anderson. Section 23-13-210 provides that the sheriff of the county where the industrial corporation is located shall appoint a deputy upon a written request of the president or other executive officer of the industrial corporation:

‘Upon a written statement of the president, treasurer or other executive officer having the management of any industrial corporation located in any county of this State directed to the sheriff of such county setting forth that in his opinion the interests of the industrial community and locality under his management require special police supervision, and that such community contains fifty or more inhabitants, the sheriff shall appoint as his deputy a discreet and suitable person satisfactory to the president, treasurer or other executive officer of the corporation requesting the appointment, who shall reside within the county in which is situate the property for whose protection he is appointed.’

Furthermore, Section 23-13-210 provides for the jurisdiction of any such deputy sheriff:

‘The jurisdiction of any such deputy sheriff, as an officer of the corporation at the request of which he is appointed, shall extend over the property controlled by the president, treasurer or other executive officer having the management of such corporation and in addition over all territory within a radius of one mile from the main building in which the industry of the corporation is operated.’

Also, Section 23-13-270 provides that the jurisdiction of any such deputy sheriff may extend to other communities in certain situations;

‘When any industrial corporation controls and operates more than one industrial plant in any county in this State or when more than one industrial plant in the same county is controlled and operated by allied or affiliated corporations or corporations which are under the same general management or are under the same general stock ownership and the sheriff appoints a deputy sheriff under the terms of this article for any industrial community and locality in any such chain or series, the sheriff may give any such deputy sheriff additional jurisdiction under the terms of this article over any or all other communities or localities of such chain or series, but such additional jurisdiction shall not become effective until the sheriff shall have made such appointment in writing naming all of the communities and localities in which such appointee is given jurisdiction.’

These provisions do not permit any such deputy sheriff to have multi-county jurisdiction. However, the provisions allow for two such deputies to be appointed from their respective counties to patrol in their respective counties.

*2 Therefore, it is the opinion of this office that a deputy sheriff cannot be appointed to have multi-jurisdiction in an industrial community which is located in two counties.

Sincerely

Scott Elliott
State Attorney

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