

1976 WL 30456 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

May 6, 1976

*1 Security Officers of the Medical University of South Carolina possess authority to enforce university regulations and the laws of this State on the property of the Medical University and on public street and thoroughfares adjacent thereto.

Mr. Carl J. Ericson
Chief of Public Safety

QUESTION PRESENTED:

Do Security Officers of the Medical University have the authority to make arrests for crimes committed on street immediately adjacent to the property of the Medical University?

STATUTES:

Sections 53-3, 53-4, 53-4.1, 53-731, and 53-736.

DISCUSSION:

Generally speaking, campus security departments throughout the State are staffed by special State Constables without additional compensation who are appointed by the Governor. Such constables have state-wide jurisdiction and are, in fact, police officers with full powers to enforce university and college campus regulations as well as the laws of this State.

The Commission of your officers reads, in pertinent part, as follows:

. . . constable without additional compensation with authority restricted as Security Officer at Medical University and other State property . . .

From the wording of this commission, it is clear that the Officer's authority would extend to streets running through and bordering immediately upon Medical University property.

Joseph R. Barker
Assistant Attorney General

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