

1972 WL 25307 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

May 4, 1972

*1 Dr. Rodney Fitzgibbon
P. O. Box 776
West Columbia, South Carolina

Dear Dr. Fitzgibbon:

In answer to your inquiry of April 26, 1972, please be advised that I can find no statute or court decision which would require a staff physician at a hospital to attend to or take responsibility for care of indigent patients of a county. You also mentioned that the hospital by-laws provide that physicians of the active medical division shall attend charity patients and you asked if the hospital could dismiss the physician or refuse to admit his patients for failure to abide by the rule. It would seem to me that such procedure would be questionable though the general rule is that hospital authorities have the power to establish reasonable rules and regulations in the management of such institutions. See [Annotation, 24 A.L.R. 2d 850](#).

Very truly yours,

Charles A. Taylor, III
Assistant Attorney General

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