## 1972 WL 25354 (S.C.A.G.)

## Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina June 14, 1972

## \*1 In re: Motor Vehicle Mufflers

Mr. W. N. Blanks 4516 Catherine Street Columbia, South Carolina 29203

Dear Mr. Blanks:

South Carolina law on motor vehicle mufflers is embodied in Section 46-601, 1962 Code of Laws of South Carolina: 'Every motor vehicle shall at all times be equipped with a muffler in good working order and in constant operation to prevent excessive or unusual noise and annoying smoke and no person shall use a muffler cutout, bypass or similar device upon a motor vehicle upon a highway. The engine and power mechanism of every motor vehicle shall be so equipped and adjusted as to prevent the escape of excessive fumes and smoke.'

As you can see, the statutory law does not set forth standards in maximum allowable noise measured in decibels or other units, nor does it set such standards for amounts of smoke emitted. The State Highway Department is empowered to promulgate rules and regulations that could include such standards, but it has not yet seen fit to do so. Sincerely,

Joseph C. Coleman Deputy Attorney General

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