

## The State of South Carolina OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

HENRY MCMASTER ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 19, 2005

Lee E. Harley-Fitts, Director Allendale County Department of Social Services 611 Mulberry Street, Building A Allendale, South Carolina 29810

Dear Mr. Harley-Fitts:

In a letter to this office you questioned whether you may run for the position of clerk of court in Allendale County. You are presently serving as County Director for the Department of Social Services. You indicated that you would like to maintain your employment with DSS until the election. You further indicated that if you were elected clerk of court, you would resign your position as DSS County Director.

Generally, there is no prohibition to an individual running for elective office. Moreover, I am unaware of any requirement that you resign as DSS Director in order to run for the position of clerk of court. I suggest, however, that you consult with a DSS attorney to insure that there is not a local law or a policy of the County or State Department of Social Services which might address this question.

With kind regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

Charles H. Richardson

Senior Assistant Attorney General

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REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

Robert D. Cook

Assistant Deputy Attorney General