

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

CHARLES MOLONY CONDON ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 27, 1997

Lt. Stephen F. Baxley 494 Airport Road Seneca, South Carolina 29678

Dear Lt. Baxley:

Your opinion request has been forwarded to me for reply. Initially, I sincerely apologize for the tardiness of this reply. However, as you must understand, this office receives countless opinion requests and Attorney General Condon has made it a point that we attempt to respond to all as expeditiously as possible. Consequently, on occasion, it may take us longer than we would like to answer individual requests.

In your request, you inform this office that the city of Seneca no longer allows the Seneca Police Department to conduct its "ride-along" program. You then ask for a ruling on the "ride-along" program. In my opinion, your question is not one of a legal nature, but rather one of policy which must be left up to the sound discretion of the governing body of the municipality. See, Op. Mississippi Atty. Gen. dated May 23, 1990.

This letter is an informal opinion only. It has been written by a designated assistant attorney general and represents the position of the undersigned attorney as to the specific questions asked. It has not, however, been personally scrutinized by the Attorney General nor officially published in the manner of a formal opinion.

Please accept my sincere apology for the delay in responding to your question. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,

Paul M. Koch

Assistant Attorney General