

The State of South Carolina



Office of the Attorney General

T. TRAVIS MEDLOCK
ATTORNEY GENERAL

REMBERT C. DENNIS BUILDING
POST OFFICE BOX 11549
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29211
TELEPHONE: 803-734-3970
FACSIMILE: 803-253-6283

March 16, 1992

Walter M. Bailey, Jr., Corporation Counsel
Town of Summerville
104 Civic Center
Summerville, South Carolina 29483

Dear Mr. Bailey:

In a letter to this Office you questioned whether an individual who holds a firearm dealer's license may carry a pistol on his person away from his place of business.

As referenced by another opinion of this Office issued this same date, pursuant to Section 16-23-20(5) of the Code

It shall be unlawful for anyone to carry about the person, whether concealed or not, any pistol, except as follows:

....

(5) Any person regularly engaged in the business of manufacturing, repairing, repossession or dealing in firearms, or the agent or representative of such person while possessing, using or carrying a pistol in the usual or ordinary course of such business.

The opinion concluded that an individual regularly engaged in the business of dealing in firearms would be authorized to carry a pistol in the ordinary course of his business. The opinion stated

The term "ordinary course of his business" should be construed as including that which is traditional or ordinary activity for an individual in that type business.

Mr. Bailey


Page 2

March 16, 1992

Therefore, any situation would have to be examined as to whether it could be considered to be encompassed by the limitation "in the usual or ordinary course of such business."

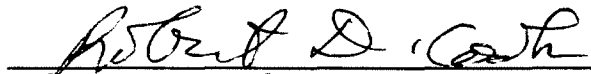
With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,


Charles H. Richardson
Assistant Attorney General

CHR/an

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:


Robert D. Cook
Executive Assistant for Opinions