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# The State of South Carolina



## Office of the Attorney General

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November 6, 1989

The Honorable Rufus E. Ferguson  
Magistrate, County of Allendale  
Fairfax, South Carolina 29827

Dear Magistrate Ferguson:

In a letter to this Office you questioned the authority of a town policeman beyond the town limits.

Pursuant to Section 5-7-110 of the Code, police officers

...shall exercise their powers on all private and public property within the corporate limits of the municipality and on all property owned or controlled by the municipality wheresoever situated; provided, that the municipality may contract with any public utility, agency or with any private business to provide police protection beyond the corporate limits... (emphasis added)

I am enclosing copies of several prior opinions which comment on the authority of a town policeman outside the town limits.

You also questioned the jurisdiction of a municipal court. Pursuant to Section 14-25-45 of the Code,

(e)ach municipal court shall have jurisdiction to try all cases arising under the ordinances of the municipality for which established. The Court shall also have all such powers, duties and jurisdiction in criminal cases made under state law and conferred upon magistrates. ...

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In a prior opinion of this Office dated September 16, 1980 it was stated that the territorial limits of the jurisdiction of a municipal court are the limits of the municipality in which the court is created.

If there is anything further, please advise.

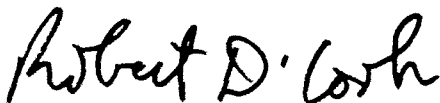
Sincerely,



Charles H. Richardson  
Assistant Attorney General

CHR/nnw  
Enclosure

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:



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Robert D. Cook  
Executive Assistant for Opinions