

The State of South Carolina



Office of the Attorney General

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November 4, 1987

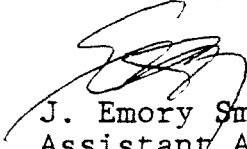
Motte L. Talley, Esquire
Staff Attorney
South Carolina Court Administration
P. O. Box 50477
Columbia, South Carolina 29250

Dear Motte:

You have requested the definition of the word "fees" as used in a September 24, 1987 opinion of this Office for the purposes of determining whether such fees should be retained by masters and special referees for personal compensation. The usage of the term "fees" for that purpose in that opinion includes all money payable to masters and special referees under the authority cited in the January 8, 1987 opinion of this Office written by B. J. Willoughby regardless of whether the money is designated as "compensation" or as fees in that authority. §§14-11-310, 14-11-320 and 15-31-150 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976 and Rule 53 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure. In other words, any money paid to masters and special referees under that authority should not be retained by them as personal compensation.

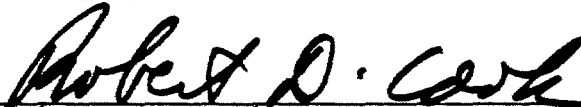
If you need additional information, please let me know.

Yours very truly,


J. Emory Smith, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

JESjr/srcj

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:



Robert D. Cook
Deputy Attorney General