

1984 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. 73 (S.C.A.G.), 1984 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 84-31, 1984 WL 159838

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

Opinion No. 84-31

March 22, 1984

*1 The Honorable Richard W. Riley
Governor of South Carolina
State House
Post Office Box 11450
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Governor Riley:

You have asked whether the offense of extortion, prohibited by [18 U.S.C. § 1951](#), is a crime of moral turpitude within the meaning of [Article VI, § 8 of the South Carolina Constitution](#); this provision authorizes the Governor, in his discretion, to suspend public officials upon indictment for crimes involving moral turpitude. From our examination of the indictment you have submitted to us and other general authorities, we conclude that the offense mentioned is a crime of moral turpitude. [Circella v. Neelley](#), 115 F.Supp. 615, (D.C. III. 1953) [affd.](#), 216 F.2d 33 (7th Cir. 1954), [cert. den.](#), 348 U.S. 964 (1955); [State ex rel. Okl. Bar Assn. v. Hall](#), 567 P.2d 975 (1977); 23 A.L.R. Fed. 480, pp. 539–540. See also, [Libarian v. State Bar](#), 239 P.2d 865, 866 (1952); [In Re Disbarment of Coffey](#), 56 P. 448; 35 C.J.S., [Extortion](#), § 1. Accordingly, you are authorized under state law to suspend the person in question, but such suspension is within your discretion and you may or may not do so as you see fit. [Op. Atty. Gen.](#), July 23, 1981; February 6, 1980.

With kindest personal regards, I am
Sincerely yours

T. Travis Medlock
Attorney General

1984 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. 73 (S.C.A.G.), 1984 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 84-31, 1984 WL 159838

End of Document

© 2015 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.