

1983 WL 181697 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

October 14, 1983

*1 The Honorable John P. Hooks, Sr.
Horry County Magistrate
Route 2
Box 25
Nichols, South Carolina 29581

Dear Magistrate Hooks,

You have asked whether there are any legal means to get a vehicle, registered in South Carolina and having an expired inspection sticker, to an inspection station other than towing or hauling it in some manner.

The law appears clear on this point. [Section 56-5-5350\(a\), South Carolina Code](#), 1976, provides in part:

No person shall drive or move on any highway any vehicle ... unless there shall be in effect and properly displayed thereon a current certificate of inspection.

As you observed, there are no provisions in the Code which create an exception to this rule in the situation you describe.

In addition, [Sections 56-5-5350\(e\) and \(f\) South Carolina Code](#), 1980, as amended, provide that a vehicle must be inspected before it is registered or titled in South Carolina and that a vehicle must display a valid inspection sticker before it can be sold. In light of these provisions, unless the vehicle's inspection sticker is allowed to expire by the owner, I would envision no situation where the [§ 56-5-5350](#) rule would present a problem.

If you have any further questions concerning this matter, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Cook
Executive Assistant for Opinions

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