

1982 WL 189158 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

February 4, 1982

***1 Re: Opinion Request of January 15, 1982**

Paul Moran
State Law Enforcement Division
Post Office Box 21398
Columbia, South Carolina 29221

Dear Paul:

I am in receipt of Chief Strom's opinion request of January 15, 1982, inquiring whether a licensed private detective was, under any circumstances, exempt from reporting evidence of criminal activity to the Division. The law recognizes no such exemption. Private detectives must report all evidence of criminal activity uncovered in their investigation to SLED.

Section 4-17-20(a)(4) is dispositive of this question. That section reads in part:

... Any evidence of criminal action or involvement shall be reported by the licensed private detective to the Chief of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division.

Research reveals no exception to this requirement.

Therefore, please be advised that all evidence of criminal action or involvement uncovered by private detectives shall be reported by them to the Division.

Sincerely,

Scott Elliott
Assistant Attorney General

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