1980 WL 120769 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina July 15, 1980

*1 Sheriff Ernest J. Harrington Sheriff of Cherokee County 125 Baker Blvd. Gaffney, South Carolina 29340

Dear Sheriff Harrington:

In a telephone call to this Office, you raised a question relating to this State's Blue Laws. You particularly asked whether an automotive parts store could engage in its usual business on Sunday in this State.

While the Blue Laws generally prohibit the sale of merchandise on Sunday, Section 53-1-50, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976 does allow specified goods to be sold and certain businesses to engage in operation. As to your question concerning the operation of an automotive parts store on Sunday, such Section specifically permits

"... the installation of repair parts or accessories for immediate use in connection with motor vehicles"

In the Opinion of this Office, such provision does not contemplate the general unlimited sale of automotive parts and accessories on Sunday. Instead, it appears that the intent of such Section is to allow for the sale and installation of such automotive parts and accessories as are immediately needed by a motorist for the repair of an automobile. It was not intended to permit the sale of automotive parts and accessories to the 'weekend mechanic' or to an individual who merely desires to purchase such parts for any future need as it may arise. Therefore, a typical automotive parts store would not be permitted to engage in its usual business of selling automotive parts and accessories to the general public on Sunday.

If there are any future questions concerning the above, please do not hesitate to contact me. Sincerely,

Charles H. Richardson Assistant Attorney General

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