

1977 WL 36963 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

November 10, 1977

*1 Joseph M. McCulloch, Jr.
S. C. Court Administration

QUESTION:

May a Hearings Officer in the Department of Juvenile Placement and Aftercare approve a voucher for reimbursement of indigent representation fees and costs.

The South Carolina Code of Laws in Sections 17–3–70 through 17–3–90 provides only that vouchers shall be submitted to the Clerk of Court for approval by the trial judge. No provisions are made in these sections for approval by any officer other than the trial judge.

Sections 24–15–310, et seq., of the Code make no provision for representation of juveniles or for voucher approval for such representation.

As there is no statutory authority in any of these sections for voucher approval by a Hearings Officer with the Department of Juvenile Placement and Aftercare, such officer is not authorized to approve those vouchers.

A. Camden Lewis
Assistant Attorney General

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