

1977 WL 36991 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

December 15, 1977

*1 Ms. Amelia B. Solomon
S. C. Office of Volunteer Services
1321 Lady Street
Room 312
Owen Bldg.
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Ms. Solomon:

You have asked this Office for an opinion as to whether or not State agencies may allocate State funds in their budget to purchase liability insurance for volunteers who are rendering a service to such agency. For the purposes of this opinion, you have defined 'volunteers' to mean persons who, of their own free will, provide goods or services, regular hours, on specific assignments and under proper supervision to any State agency.

A review of the appropriate authorities leads me to the opinion that there is no prohibition against a State agency allocating funds in their budget to purchase liability insurance for volunteers.

However, it would seem that the better policy would be to gain their insurance from General Services which provides insurance for all State agencies. It is my understanding that the General Services Insurance Fund is available for State agencies and their activities as well as the political subdivisions of the State of South Carolina. I am unaware of whether or not the General Services would cover volunteers, however, I am sure this is merely a policy decision rather than some legal prohibition.

If I may be of further service, do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A. Camden Lewis
Assistant Attorney General

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