

1978 WL 34638 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

January 6, 1978

*1 Morris D. Mazursky, Esquire
Mazursky & Evans
P. O. Box 1645
Sumter, South Carolina 29150

Dear Mr. Mazursky:

Your letter of December 21, 1977, has been referred to me by the Attorney General for response. You request an opinion from this office concerning whether an individual would be in violation of [Section 16-23-20, Code of Laws of South Carolina \(1976\)](#) if he kept a pistol in the closed, unlocked glove compartment of his automobile.

[Section 16-23-20](#) specifically exempts from its criminal sanction those persons in any vehicle 'where the pistol is secured in a closed glove compartment or closed trunk.' The word 'secured', in our opinion, serves only a descriptive function in the above exception and does not imply that the glove compartment must be locked. The statute only requires that the compartment be closed presumably so that accessibility to the weapon will be somewhat limited.

I trust this discussion adequately answers your question, however, if any further assistance is required, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Richard P. Wilson
Assistant Attorney General

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