1979 WL 43086 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina June 26, 1979

*1 Mr. Michael Grant LeFever Deputy Director Juvenile Placement And Aftercare P. O. Box 5535 Columbia, S. C. 29250

Dear Mike:

This letter is in response to your recent inquiry as to whether Juvenile Placement And Aftercare is responsible for printing and supplying forms for the operation of the Family Court. Section 14-21-480, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended, places the responsibility for juvenile intake and probation with Juvenile Placement And Aftercare. Clearly, Juvenile Placement And Aftercare must provide its staff with those forms necessary to perform the tasks which have been charged to the Agency.

The forms enumerated in the Memorandum dated January 24, 1979, from Director Davis to all county executive officers include petitions, summonses, subpoenas, incident reports, and docket sheets. Louis Rosen, Assistant Director of Court Administration, has informed me that it is his opinion that these forms are forms of the Family Court in the sense that they are designated uniform forms to be used by the Family Courts throughout the State. He further expressed the opinion that these forms are essential to the overall workings of the Family Court system and therefore of Juvenile Placement And Aftercare, but the forms are not indigenous to intake and probation and therefore the responsibility to provide the forms does not rest with Juvenile Placement And Aftercare.

The real issue then is whether Court Administration or the county has the responsibility of providing the forms. This question must be presented to us by one of the parties directly involved, i.e., Court Administration or County Administrator for Florence County. Court Administration takes the position that Section 14-21-485, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended, places the onus on the counties to provide the forms necessary for the operation of the Family Court system. Mr. Rosen indicates to me that an opinion request is unnecessary at this time. If the situation in Florence is unsatisfactory to you, you may choose to express your concern to Louis Rosen with Court Administration and suggest that he request an opinion from our office.

Sincerely,

B. J. Willoughby State Attorney

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