

1979 WL 43571 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

September 7, 1979

*1 G. P. Callison, Esquire
Greenwood County Attorney
Post Office Box 1115
Greenwood, South Carolina 29646

Dear Mr. Callison:

With apologies for the delay, I am responding to your request for an opinion from this Office as to the scope of the Greenwood County Council's authority with respect to other County elected officials. I am enclosing herewith a copy of a previous opinion which, in part, discusses the areas in which the provisions of Act No. 283 of 1975, the 'home rule' legislation, authorize a county council to affect the functioning of the offices of elected officials, *i.e.*, in the areas of employee grievances [§ 4-9-30(7)], the establishment of an accounting and reporting system [§ 4-9-30(8)] and of a centralized purchasing system [§ 4-9-160] and the submission to it of annual fiscal reports from all county offices receiving county funds [§ 4-9-140]. In addition, [Section 4-9-30\(7\), CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA](#), 1976, as amended, empowers a county council to adopt personnel system policies and procedures covering all county employees, including employees of other elected county officials. Also enclosed are copies of previous opinions which discuss the scope of the authority hereinabove cited granted to a county council with reference to specific fact situations. Also of significance, as you have noted, is [Section 4-9-310, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA](#), 1976, as amended, which vests in the county council the broad and general power for the county administration and policy making in the council form of county government. With regard to the two specific fact situations presented by the Greenwood County elected officials, I think that their respective departments are subject to job studies conducted by the Council (either directly or through its appointed Director) and that the Council can make its policy and administrative decisions and actions known to the other elected officials through meetings with its Director. *Cf.*, §§ 4-9-430, 4-9-650 and 4-9-850, [CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA](#), 1976, as amended.

With kind regards,

Karen LeCraft Henderson
Senior Assistant Attorney General

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