1978 WL 34859 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina April 14, 1978

*1 Ms. M. S. Scheuer Staff Attorney Neighborhood Legal Assistance Program, Inc., 438 King Street Charleston, SC 29403

Dear Ms. Scheuer:

You have requested an opinion from this Office as to whether § 40-5-320 of the South Carolina Code applies to the Charleston Neighborhood Legal Assistance Program, Inc., created under the auspices of Federal Public Laws 93-355 and 95-222.

§ 40-5-320 prohibits the practice of law by corporations and voluntary associations. The corporation created under Public Law 93-355 does not practice law but rather disburses funds in a manner which allows private, qualified attorneys to maintain a client/attorney relationship with individuals who might not be able to obtain legal assistance otherwise. The attorneys are not involved in the corporation and the funding corporation does not practice law. It is therefore the opinion of this Office that the Charleston Neighborhood Legal Assistance Program, Inc., is not subject to the prohibitions of § 40-5-320.

Sincerely,

A. Camden Lewis

Sr. Assistant Attorney General

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