1978 WL 34598 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina October 6, 1978

*1 RE: Mrs. Rose Marie Whitesides, deceased 249-80-7903

Mr. Purvis W. Collins Director South Carolina Retirement System Post Office Box 11960 Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Mr. Collins:

You have requested an opinion concerning the disposition of retirement benefits payable to the estate and to the designated beneficiary of the above-named deceased member. The beneficiary is the deceased's husband who has been charged with her murder.

Since § 21-1-50, 1976 Code of Laws provides that no person convicted of murder or voluntary manslaughter may benefit from the deceased's estate, and since the husband's case has not yet come to trial, the Retirement System must hold the funds until the case is disposed of. If the husband is convicted, the funds will go to the deceased's estate; if he is acquitted, he may take the funds himself.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth P. Woodington Assistant Attorney General

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