

1978 WL 35133 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

September 25, 1978

**\*1 RE: Recognition of Collective Bargaining Agent by City in Police Grievance.**

Colonel Altman  
Chief of Police  
Police Department  
Beaufort, South Carolina 29902

Dear Colonel Altman:

This letter is to confirm our conversation of September 25, 1978, wherein I advised you that the City of Beaufort had no duty to recognize or bargain collectively with any union purporting to represent employees in the Beaufort Police Department. Although a policeman may join any union he wishes to join, the City does not have to deal with that union in any matter.

There are no laws in South Carolina dealing with the right of the public employee to collectively bargain and/or strike his employer with the exception of [Section 54-3-210, 1976 S.C. Code](#) relating to the State Ports Authority. I have enclosed a Circuit Court case, Medical College of South Carolina v. Drug and Hospital Union Local 1199, et al. decided by Judge Singletary in Charleston on July 9, 1969. It was not appealed to the South Carolina Supreme Court and, therefore, is of limited percentile value; but, it is the only case on the subject and contains a good summary of the present state of the law as it stands in South Carolina.

If I may be of further assistance, do not hesitate to call.

Yours truly,

Sally G. Young  
Assistant Attorney General

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