1975 WL 29657 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina April 3, 1975

## \*1 In Re: Off Duty Policemen Authority to Arrest

Mr. Thomas H. Ackerman
Executive Secretary
South Carolina Association of Secondary School Principals
421 Zimalcrest Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

## Dear Mr. Ackerman:

You have inquired as to whether or not off-duty policemen employed to assist in the maintenance of order at high school athletic contests have the authority of arrest while employed in connection with such events.

With respect to a deputy sheriff, his police authority is county-wide, and he may exercise full police power at all times.

A city policeman would have the same right to exercise the police power when he is off regularly assigned duty as he has when he is on regularly assigned duty. Whether or not a paid police officer would have duty at a particular athletic stadium would depend on the territorial location of the State. The fact that such municipal officer is not on regularly assigned duty does not divest him of his authority to act as a police officer.

Yours very truly,

Joseph C. Coleman Deputy Attorney General

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