1975 WL 29774 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina May 1, 1975

*1 Re: No. 274—Schools

Mr. W. M. Haddon Principal Pinecrest Elementary School Airport Road Greenwood, South Carolina 29646

Dear Mr. Haddon:

In your recent letter to the Attorney General you requested that we advise you as to whether or not a public school may lawfully withhold a student's records until he has paid money which he owes to the school.

In our view, a public school in South Carolina cannot, in the absence of a statute or rule and regulation of a school district, lawfully withhold a student's records until the money which he owes the school has been paid. <u>Cf.</u>, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, § 21-230, as amended.

You should, however, contact your school district attorney with regard to this issue. Best wishes,

C. Tolbert Goolsby, Jr.

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