

1975 WL 29017 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

July 17, 1975

***1 In Re: Municipal Police—Powers of Arrest**

Honorable Charles Ross Smith

Mayor

Lincolnton

Summerville, South Carolina

Dear Mayor Smith:

You have inquired whether or not municipal police officers may effect arrests of persons violating State law as well as those violating municipal ordinances.

Under State statute [Section 47-147 and Section 47-232] municipal police officers possess the same powers of arrest as did common law constables. Such constables had full law enforcement powers.

In view of the foregoing, it is the opinion of this Office that any duly and legally appointed and qualified municipal police officer may effect arrests for violations of State law and for violations of municipal ordinances.

Very truly yours,

Joseph C. Coleman

Deputy Attorney General

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