1975 WL 28992 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina July 7, 1975

\*1 W. T. Johnson, Jr., Esq. Attorney at Law 201 Beaty Street P. O. Box 851 Conway, South Carolina

Dear Mr. Johnson:

In response to your letter of June 5, 1975, requesting assistance in clarifying the question of whether or not to retain the name of Mr. O. A. Rankin in your firm name after his elevation to the Horry County Judgeship, I direct your attention to the Code and enclosed copies of informal American Bar Association opinions.

Section 15-624, 1962 Code of Laws, as amended, reads in pertinent part:

'The county judge and county solicitor shall not practice as attorneys at law in any cause or matter of which the county court has jurisdiction or may acquire jurisdiction.'

Informal ABA Opinion 819 closely relates to your inquiry, while Opinion 502 provides some relevant directives on this matter.

It appears that the determination to drop or retain Mr. Rankin's name depends upon his intentions to practice or not practice in any matter that may come within the jurisdiction of the Horry County Court.

Sincerely,

A. Camden Lewis Assistant Attorney General

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