

1974 WL 27224 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

October 15, 1974

***1 Re: York County Supply Bill**

The Honorable Robert W. Hayes
Judge
16th Judicial Circuit
Post Office Box 529
Rock Hill, SC 29730

Dear Judge Hayes:

You have asked for an opinion as to the affect of the York County Supply Bill (Ratification No. 1536, House No. 1310, dated September 4, 1974) on the practice of appointing Referees in York County.

The York County Supply Bill amends South Carolina Code of Laws Section 15-1801 (1962, Supp. 1973) such that the Office of Referee and the practice of referring cases to Referees is abolished in York County. In addition, the Office of Master is established in York County.

Pursuant to the situation governing the Office of Master, South Carolina Code of Laws Section 15-1811 (1962) provides: In case of a vacancy in the office of master or in case of the disqualification or disability of the master from interest or any other reason the court or a judge thereof may appoint a special master . . . [emphasis added].

Therefore, it is the opinion of this office that the Office of Referees and the practice of referring cases to a Referee no longer exist in York County but that the court has the power to appoint a 'special master' in the appropriate circumstances.

Sincerely yours,

A. Camden Lewis
Assistant Attorney General

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