

1974 WL 28025 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

December 10, 1974

\*1 Mr. Burrell M. Ellison, Jr.  
601 Marion Sims Drive  
Lancaster, South Carolina

Dear Mr. Ellison:

Thank you for your letter of December 4 concerning alleged voting by persons living outside city limits in a recent city election in Lancaster.

This problem has been focused upon in elections in the City of Columbia in recent years and the experience in those cases indicates the procedure that should be followed. This procedure is available by the exercise of protests or challenges to voters at the time the vote is cast. There is no procedure provided by law for ascertaining and verifying the true residence of a registered voter but in past years, and as recently as the last election in the City of Columbia, candidates mailed postcards to the registered electors prior to the election and challenged those votes sought to be cast by persons whose postcards were returned to them with the notation 'Moved—Left No Address.' This system was devised by interested persons and is the only method of which I am aware that an immediate check can be made prior to an election to ascertain if voters live where their voting certificates actually indicate.

I am forwarding a copy of this letter to the Director of the State Election Commission for such other or further comments as he may care to submit to you.

I appreciate your letter very much and it indicates a wholesome attitude toward the conduct of elections and a desire to see that they are properly run.

Very truly yours,

Daniel R. McLeod  
Attorney General

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