

1973 WL 26617 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

February 15, 1973

***1 In re: Unlawful Pistols, Possession by Employees of Owner of Premises or Business.**

Honorable M. C. Hughey
Chief of Police
Union, South Carolina 29379

Dear Chief Highey:

You have inquired as to the legality of possession of pistols by employees of the owner or renter of premises on which a business is operated.

Section 16-129.1(8) exempts from the pistol law, ‘Any person in his home, or upon his real property, or fixed place of business.’ Nothing contained in the pistol law (Sec. 16-129, et seq.) even remotely suggests that persons are exempt from the restrictions of the law because they are employees of the business.

Without question, a reasonably strong argument can be put up that an employee of a business, particularly when such employee is a lone attendant of a business operating at late hours, should be permitted to possess a pistol for his own protection and for the protection of the business—but that is a problem that can be resolved only by legislation. Our present law simply does not permit such possession.

Yours very truly,

Joseph C. Coleman
Deputy Attorney General

1973 WL 26617 (S.C.A.G.)

End of Document

© 2019 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.