

1973 WL 26947 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

October 31, 1973

*1 Mr. F. G. Shelly
Chief of Police
City of Georgetown
Georgetown, South Carolina 29440

Dear Chief Shelly:

Thank you for your letter of September 27 to which I have just now had an opportunity to reply. You request the opinion of this Office as to whether arrests or citations of juveniles or teenagers as contained in your police court records are confidential.

I advise that, in my opinion, peace officers' records of children are required to be kept separate from the records of adults and shall not be open to public inspection. A 'child' is defined generally as a person less than 17 years of age.

It is my opinion that persons less than 17 years of age must be treated as subject to the Family Court Act and that the records of such children are not open to public inspection.

Very truly yours,

Daniel R. McLeod
Attorney General

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