



HENRY McMASTER
ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 9, 2009

Mr. Jan K. Watts, Sr.
Director Risk Management/Safety Officer
Beaufort County Council
Post Office Drawer 1228
Beaufort, South Carolina 29901-1228

Dear Mr. Watts:

In a letter to this office you questioned whether a blanket bond can be provided for deputy sheriffs.

S.C. Code Ann. § 23-13-20 provides for the requirement of a bond for each deputy sheriff before that individual begins his duties. Such provision also states in part that “[a] blanket bond may be used in any county to fulfill the bond requirement of this section upon approval of the County Council and the County Attorney.” Therefore, in the opinion of this office, a blanket bond may be utilized for deputy sheriffs.

If there are any questions, please advise.

Very truly yours,

Henry McMaster
Attorney General

By: Charles H. Richardson
Senior Assistant Attorney General

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

Robert D. Cook
Deputy Attorney General