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The State of South Carolina  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

CHARLIE CONDON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 1, 2000

James A. Preacher, Chief of Police  
Norway Police Department  
P.O. Box 127  
Norway, South Carolina 29113

**Re: Informal Opinion**

Dear Chief Preacher,

Thank you for your letter of May 30, 2000, requesting an opinion of this Office. You ask if the Municipality of Norway can provide police protection to certain property located outside the municipal limits.

I have enclosed a copy of South Carolina Code of Laws Section 5-7-110, which states in pertinent part:

Any such police officers shall exercise their powers on all private and public property within the corporate limits of the municipality and on all property owned or controlled by the municipality wheresoever situated; provided, that the municipality may contract with any public utility, agency, or with any private business to provide police protection beyond the corporate limits. Should the municipality provide police protection beyond its corporate limits by contract, the legal description of the area to be served shall be filed with the State Law Enforcement Division, the office of the county sheriff and the Department of Public Safety.

Thus, although the county sheriff normally would have jurisdiction over the property located within the county but outside the city limits, see 1989 Op. Atty. Gen. No. 89-76, an express provision of S.C. Code Ann. § 5-7-110 allows a municipality to enter into an arrangement with a private business or public agency to provide police protection outside the city limits, assuming all the filing requirements have been met.

This letter is an informal opinion only. It has been written by a designated Senior Assistant Attorney General and represents the position of the undersigned attorney as to the specific question

*Re: Preacher*

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asked. It has not, however, been personally scrutinized by the Attorney General not officially published in the manner of a formal opinion.

With kind regards, I remain

Very truly yours,



Robert D. Cook  
Assistant Deputy Attorney General