

The State of South Carolina



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October 18, 1991

The Honorable Retha C. Cobb
Municipal Judge, City of Westminster
P. O. Box 399
Westminster, South Carolina 29693

Dear Judge Cobb:

In a letter to this Office you referenced the difficulties incurred by you because of the lack of a support staff for your court. You stated that you are in need of full-time clerical assistance.

As referenced by you, Section 14-25-5 of the Code provides for the establishment of a municipal court. Such provision states:

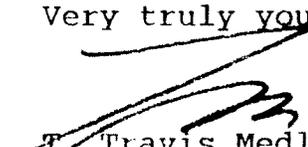
- (a) The council of each municipality in this State may, by ordinance, establish a municipal court ... The ordinance shall provide for the appointment of one or more full-time or part-time judges and the appointment of a clerk.
- (b) Any municipality establishing a municipal court ... shall provide sufficient clerical and nonjudicial support personnel to assist the municipal judge. (emphasis added)

As set forth, the General Assembly has mandated that the municipal judge be provided clerical and nonjudicial support to assist the court in carrying out its duties. In reviewing your question, my office contacted the State Court Administration Office and was informed that they could provide statistical information as to staffing and assistance provided courts of similar size to yours. This may be useful in presenting your needs to the appropriate body.

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I sincerely hope this information is helpful to you and wish you well in your efforts. With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,



T. Travis Medlock
Attorney General

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