



ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 17, 2014

Brandy A. Duncan, Esquire
General Counsel
South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy
5400 Broad River Road
Columbia, S.C. 29212

Dear Ms. Duncan,

You seek an opinion of this Office as to whether a staff member at the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy (the "Academy") may lawfully engage in a private business during his or her free time. By way of background, you state:

I request an opinion as to whether it would be lawful for a staff member of the [Academy], who is in compliance with the Academy's outside employment policy, to engage in a private business during personal time selling private security systems. The Academy does not sell or provide security systems, such as automated systems, video systems, etc....

The security system(s) that might be sold would provide safety and security solutions for healthcare, hospitality, and education providers (not law enforcement), including, radio frequency identification, real-time locating system technologies, vulnerability assessment, target hardening techniques, threat training, bullying prevention, and mobile panic buttons.

After further discussion, it is our understanding the staff member is an instructor at the Academy and a certified law enforcement officer in that capacity.

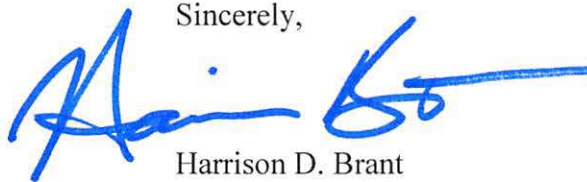
Law/Analysis

We are not aware of any State law which absolutely prohibits a staff member of the CJA from engaging in such off-duty work. However, you may wish to consult the S.C. State Ethics

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Commission to ensure that the staff member at issue conducts any such private business in compliance with the provisions of the State Ethics Act, S.C. Code § 8-13-100 et seq.

Sincerely,



Harrison D. Brant
Assistant Attorney General

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:



Robert D. Cook
Solicitor General