

1977 WL 37269 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

March 16, 1977

*1 Honorable J. W. Ratcliff
City Recorder
Cheraw, South Carolina 29520

Dear Judge Ratcliff:

You have requested the advice of this office on the question of whether the theft of goods valued at less than \$50.00 from a store can be classified as either shoplifting (§ 16-359.1) or petty larceny (§ 16-353).

Although such an act of theft is specifically proscribed by the shoplifting statute, to the extent that the value of the goods is less than \$50.00 the act would also constitute petty larceny.

You are therefore advised that in a situation where the value of the stolen goods is less than \$50.00 a warrant may issue for either shoplifting or petty larceny.

Very truly yours,

Joseph C. Coleman
Deputy Attorney General

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