

1977 WL 37412 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

July 28, 1977

\*1 Honorable Frank Powell  
Sheriff  
Richland County

QUESTION PRESENTED:

Is a professional bondsman authorized to carry a pistol without being issued a permit by the State Law Enforcement Division?

STATUTE INVOLVED:

§ 16-23-20, 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina

DISCUSSION:

Reference is made to the enclosed copy of § 16-23-20, 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina. This Section makes it unlawful for any person to carry a pistol, whether concealed or not, except for those individuals falling within one of the 12 exemptions listed in the statute.

There is not specific exemption for bail bondsmen and, since the subject about whom you are inquiring has not been issued a permit by SLED under 16-23-20(12), he cannot legally carry a pistol in this State.

CONCLUSION:

Unless a bail bondsman has been issued a permit by SLED, he cannot legally carry a pistol.

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