

1977 WL 37158 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

November 23, 1977

**\*1 RE: Change of Name by the Common Law Rule**

Stephen M. Courtland, Esquire  
Kennedy, Covington, Lobdell & Hickman  
Attorneys at Law  
3300 NCNB Plaza  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28280

Dear Mr. Courtland:

You have inquired as to whether or not South Carolina has abrogated its common law rule that a person may change his or her name without resort to the statutory procedure.

The extent of my research has revealed that South Carolina still recognizes the common law rule, irrespective of the statutory procedure. [Brayton v. Beall](#), 53 S.E. 671, 73 S.C. 308 (1906), 1941-42 Op. Att'y Gen. 277.

Respectfully yours,

Raymond C. Halford  
Senior Assistant Attorney General

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