

1978 WL 34987 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

July 18, 1978

*1 Honorable Alvin Biggs
Assistant Solicitor
P. O. Box 1525
Orangeburg, S. C. 29115

Dear Al:

In response to your letter to this office concerning the payment by counties of salaries of Assistant Solicitors, please be advised that [Section 1-7-405, Code of Laws of South Carolina](#) 1976 as amended states as follows:

Each solicitor may appoint as many assistant solicitors, investigators and secretaries as he deems necessary and whose salaries are provided by the counties of the circuit in which they serve. They shall serve at the pleasure of the solicitor and shall have such responsibilities as he directs.

Furthermore as to the relationship between the office of Solicitor and the office of the Attorney General, please be advised that [Article V, Section 20 of the South Carolina Constitution](#) specifically provides in part that:

The Attorney General shall be the chief prosecuting officer of the State with authority to supervise the prosecution of all criminal cases in courts of record.

Additionally, [Section 1-7-350, Code of Laws of South Carolina](#), 1976 provides that:

The several solicitors of the State shall, within their respective circuits, in cooperation with, and as assigned by the Attorney General, represent in all matters, both civil and criminal, all institutions, departments, and agencies of the State. Likewise in criminal matters outside their circuits, and in extradition proceedings in other states, they shall be subject to the call of the Attorney General, who shall have the exclusive right, in his discretion, to so assign them in case of the incapacity of the local solicitor or otherwise.

Therefore, based on the above, the Solicitors in this State are subject to supervision by the office of the Attorney General.

With best wishes, I am
Very truly yours,

William K. Moore
State Attorney

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