

1976 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. 390 (S.C.A.G.), 1976 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 4526, 1976 WL 23143

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

Opinion No. 4526

November 24, 1976

*1 Mr. David C. Stradinger
City Manager
City of Myrtle Beach
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29577

Dear Mr. Stradinger:

Your letter of November 22, 1976, concerning the disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act of specific public employees' salaries has been discussed by me today with Messrs. Savitz and Beighley, Assistant Attorneys General.

While no official opinion has been issued on the subject, the problem of specific salary information has been considered on a number of occasions. Heretofore, this Office has considered that a public employee's specific salary need not be given, but that substantial compliance which the Freedom of Information Act would be obtained by furnishing the pay grade of a public employee with the minimum and maximum salaries for that position.

Since a recent decision of the Supreme Court of South Carolina which mandates inspection of original public documents, it is the opinion of this Office that payrolls of public employees are subject to inspection in the original form upon request and in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. Therefore, the specific salary which an individual receives, rather than the minimum and maximum salaries for his position, is required to be furnished upon demand.

Very truly yours,

Daniel R. McLeod
Attorney General

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