

1975 WL 29488 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

February 10, 1975

*1 Mr. Bob Schwartz
Community Development Coordinator
P. O. Box 1449
Sumter, South Carolina 29150

Dear Mr. Schwartz:

In response to your phone call of last Thursday, I have looked for and am sending you several other letters and opinions of this Office regarding the use of public money for private purposes.

I reiterate my opinion that the YMCA and YWCA qualify as sectarian or religious organizations. The Charter of the Sumter Young Men's Christian Association, dated November 16, 1912, lists the organization's purpose as: to develop the Christian Charter and usefulness of its members, and to improve the spiritual, moral, and physical condition of the Young Men of Sumter, South Carolina.

The Charter of the Young Women's Christian Association of Sumter, dated March 29, 1930, lists its purpose as: to establish a community home for social and religious activities for the service of girls and women.

While I recognize that the 'Y's' may now serve more of the community than they did at the time they were Chartered, I believe that public funding of this building program would violate the Constitution.

I hope this information has been of use to you.

Sincerely,

Christine W. Kelso
Law Clerk

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