

1975 WL 29617 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

March 24, 1975

*1 Mr. Danny King
Anderson Rescue Squad
P. O. Box 3185
Anderson, South Carolina 29621

Dear Mr. King:

You have requested information from this Office concerning the use of red lights on the personal vehicles of members of the rescue squad. § 46-292 of the South Carolina Code of Laws allows use of red lights in 'authorized emergency vehicles'. § 46-216 defines 'authorized emergency vehicles' as 'vehicles of the fire department (fire patrol), police vehicles and such ambulances and emergency vehicles of municipal departments or public service corporations as are designated or authorized by the Department or the chief of police of an incorporated municipality'. From this it appears that private vehicles of members of the rescue squad may have red lights only if they are designated 'authorized emergency vehicles'.

In reference to your question concerning an ambulance siren that produces a sound like a European police car, § 46-583 of the South Carolina Code states that sirens on authorized emergency vehicles 'of a type approved by the' Highway Department may be used. I would suggest that you request approval by the Highway Department for this siren.

Yours sincerely,

Van Edwards
Law Clerk

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