

1974 WL 27223 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

October 8, 1974

*1 Mr. Addison G. Wilson
Campaign Manager
Floyd Spence for Congress
Post Office Box 11378
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Thank you for your letter of October 4, 1974, concerning where poll watchers may sit during an election. You have stated that it is your understanding that the poll watchers should be close enough to be able to compare signatures on the poll list with those on the registration card.

South Carolina Code of Laws, 1962, as amended, Section 23-400.64 states in part:

... No such watcher shall conduct himself in a manner that will interfere in the orderly conduct of the election or influence any voter in the casting of his ballot.

The managers have authority to place the watchers in any area that they so designate. Therefore, the actual physical placement of the watchers is one which each manager must make on an individual basis. The decision of where the watcher shall be stationed would depend in part on the physical setup of the polling precinct, the general conduct of the individual watchers, etc. The watchers should be given full opportunity to observe the election procedure but the activity of the watchers should not be allowed to interfere with the orderly conduct of the election.

Sincerely,

Treva G. Ashworth
Assistant Attorney General

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