

1973 WL 26766 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

June 6, 1973

***1 Re: Nursing permits**

Ms. Clara E. Bouknight, R.N.
Nurse Consultant
Division of Health Services
South Carolina State Board of Health
J. Marion Sims Building
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Ms. Bouknight:

Your letter of May 4, 1973, questioning whether a registered nurse or graduate nurse awaiting licensing in South Carolina and holding a permit from the South Carolina Board of nursing must work under the direct supervision of a currently licensed registered nurse, has been referred to me for reply.

The South Carolina Laws Governing Nursing, S. C. Code Sections 56-951 through 1018, as amended, do not consider under what conditions a person authorized to practice nursing must do so under direct supervision. Any person authorized to engage in the 'practice of nursing', as defined by S. C. Code Section 56-951(f), which persons include nursing graduates awaiting the results of their first Board licensing examination, S. C. Code Section 56-954(4), and also nurses holding temporary permits to practice under State Board of Nursing Regulation No. 13, may practice nursing without direct supervision without violating any statutory law. This is not to say, however, that the South Carolina State Board of Health may not impose its own constraining regulations on its own employees, provided such regulations are reasonable and are not discriminatorily applied.

If you have further questions, please correspond. With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

John B. Grimball
Assistant Attorney General

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