



2015-007

STATE OF ALABAMA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

LUTHER STRANGE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

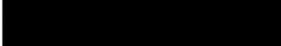
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November 3, 2015

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL



Re: Shelby County Buildings

Dear 

On September 28, 2015, my Office received your petition under Ala. Code §13A-11-61.3 regarding a possible violation of Alabama Law by the Shelby County Commission. Specifically, you alleged that the Shelby County License Office, the Shelby County Tax Commissioner Office, the Shelby County Administration Building, and the James Alfred Jones County Services Building have posted signs prohibiting firearms.

My Office's investigation confirmed that the Shelby County Commission posted these signs. I asked the Shelby County Commission to explain its legal justification for prohibiting weapons in these buildings. The Commission reviewed a redacted copy of your petition and the relevant portions of Alabama law and agreed that the signs posted at the Shelby County License Office, the Shelby County Tax Commissioner Office, and the James Alfred Jones County Services Building were not compliant with state law and removed these signs. Because the Commission is now compliant with Alabama law, I have determined not to bring an enforcement action under Ala. Code § 13A-11-61.3.

The investigation also confirmed that the Shelby County Commission posted the signs at the County Administration Building. The Commission confirmed that the signs at this building remain because it is an official Courthouse Annex. Ala. Code § 13A-11-61.2(4) prohibits firearms "[i]nside a courthouse, courthouse annex, a building in which a District Attorney's office is located, or a building in which a county commission or city council is currently having a regularly scheduled or specially called meeting." Because the Commission has authority under Ala. Code § 13A-11-61.2 to prohibit firearms at the County Administration Building, I have determined not to file suit.

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A redacted copy of this letter will be posted to my Office's website, in compliance with the statutory requirement that I "publicly state in writing the justification for the determination not to file suit." Ala. Code § 13A-11-61.3(f)(3).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luther Strange". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end of the word "Strange".

Luther Strange
Attorney General

LS: alb