STATE OF ALABAMA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

LUTHER STRANGE
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July 29, 2015

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

[redacted]

Re: Lawrence County Sheriff pistol permit language

Dear [redacted]:

On June 24, 2015, my Office received your petition under Ala. Code § 13A-11-61.3 regarding a possible violation of Alabama law by the Lawrence County Sheriff. Specifically, you alleged that the Lawrence County Sheriff issued pistol permits with this language on the back:

> License to carry a Revolver or a Pistol Concealed on the person, or in a vehicle is hereby granted, except in a courthouse and criminal justice building by order of the Sheriff.
>
> Your pistol license does not allow you to carry a pistol in any place that serves alcohol or while you are drinking or using any illegal drugs.
>
> YOUR LICENSE CAN BE CONFISCATED BY ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER FOR IRRESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR.

Under Alabama law, "a sheriff may not place conditions or requirements on the issuance of the permit or limit its scope or applicability." Ala. Code § 13A-11-75.

I asked the Lawrence County Sheriff to confirm whether his office issues permits with this language and to explain his legal justification for the language. The Lawrence County Sheriff reviewed a redacted copy of your petition and the relevant portions of Alabama law. He agreed that the language should be changed. He has informed my Office that the back of the pistol permits will now carry this language: "License to carry a Revolver or a Pistol

Concealed on the person or in a vehicle is hereby granted, except where State law prohibits."

Because the pistol permits are now compliant with Alabama law, I have determined not to bring an enforcement action under Ala. Code § 13A-11-61.3. 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,

Luther Strange

Luther Strange
Alabama Attorney General

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