



# South Carolina Department of Insurance

1201 Main Street, Suite 1000  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

**HENRY McMASTER**  
Governor

**RAYMOND G. FARMER**  
Director

TO: All Jail Administrators of South Carolina

From: Willie Seawright, Program Coordinator

Subject: Solicitation – Bondsmen and Runner Bondsmen

Date: June 7, 2017

This matter has been brought to the Department of Insurance's attention concerning the solicitation by bondsmen and runners at your facility and around the State.

Please be advised, S.C. Code 38-53-170(f) "Unlawful Acts" prohibits a bondsman and/or runner from soliciting business on the grounds of the courts, in any court room, or in and about any place where prisoners are confined.

In addition, here is a listing of activities that this Department consider to be solicitation. They are as follows:

1. Utilizing inmates, jailers, and jail staff members to solicit on their behalf.
2. Distribute business cards to potential customers while on the premises of the court, in any court room, or in and about any place where prisoners are confined.
3. Wearing or displaying the name and/or phone number of a bonding company while on the premises of the court, in any court room, or in and about any place where prisoners are confined.

Should this type of activity exist or continue on your premises, the statute allow for corrective action(s) to be taken by you. Any action taken pursuant to the above mentioned code resulting in a conviction, guilty plea, or plea of nolo contendere pursuant to Section 38-53-340 (guilty of a misdemeanor) must be reported to the Department by the court within thirty (30) days.

I hope, by you posting this memorandum in the lobby or areas where the public may view, it will assist in controlling this unlawful act. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office at 803-737-6099.