

2002 WL 399724 (Miss.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General  
State of Mississippi

Opinion No. 2001-0781

January 10, 2002

Re: Qualification under [Miss. Code Ann. Section 13-3-31](#)

Robert P. Chamberlin, Esquire

Dear Mr. Chamberlin:

Attorney General Mike Moore has received your request for an official opinion and has assigned it to me for research and reply. Your letter sets out certain facts and then asks the following question:

Does the DeSoto Appeal qualify under [Miss. Code Ann. Sec. 13-3-31](#) to publish legal notices for DeSoto County, Mississippi, based upon the criteria set forth herein?

A similar question was posed in MS AG Op., Stockton (December 15, 2000) (copy enclosed), wherein we opined:

A newspaper, to meet the statutory requirements of [Section 13-3-31](#), must maintain a known office of publication within the corporate limits of a municipality, even if the printing presses are not physically located within the municipality. MS AG Op., Carroll (January 20, 1989). We have also stated that all of the qualifications of [Section 13-3-31](#) are equally important and that a newspaper must meet all the qualifications to be qualified to publish legal notices. MS AG Op., Dickerson (December 3, 1999); MS AG Op., Edens (July 23, 1999); MS AG Op., Haque (May 22, 1990).

The opinion further stated:

The statute provides that a newspaper is deemed to be “published” at the principal public business office of the publisher, not at the place where the newspaper is printed. A newspaper may have a principal public business office in more than one location[...]

We do not by official opinion make factual determinations as to whether a particular newspaper meets all of the requirements for a paper to publish legal notices.

Sincerely,  
Mike Moore  
Attorney General

By: Beverly A. Bolton  
Special Assistant Attorney General

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