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May 18, 1981

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ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL

INTERAGENCY

The Honorable George W. Kline
Arizona House of Representatives
State Capitol, House Wing
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: I81-065 (R81-049)

Dear Representative Kline:

We are writing in response to your letter of March 23, 1981, in which you asked whether a volunteer fire district may purchase and operate an ambulance service. We think that these activities are authorized by statute.

The pertinent provision of A.R.S. § 9-1004 states:

B. A fire district, through its board or elected fire chief and secretary-treasurer, may:

1. Employ any personnel deemed necessary for fire protection and preservation of life.

2. Construct, purchase, lease, lease-purchase, purchase or otherwise acquire the following or any interest therein, and in connection with such construction or other acquisition, purchase, lease, lease-purchase or grant a lien on any or all of its present or future property including:

(a) Apparatus, water and rescue equipment including ambulances and equipment related to any of the foregoing.

By its terms, the statute permits a fire district to employ personnel for the preservation of life and acquire rescue equipment. Additionally, pursuant to subsection 11, a fire district may contract with another party to operate the service.

The Honorable George W. Kline
May 18, 1981
Page 2

A fire district must, of course, subscribe to its budgetary limitations and must satisfy all statutory requirements pertaining to the operation of an ambulance service under Title 41.

Sincerely,



BOB CORBIN
Attorney General

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