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Attorney General
STATE CAPITOL
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Robert R. Corbin

July 6, 1981

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ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL

INTERAGENCY

The Honorable Bill Swink
Arizona State Senate
State Capitol, Senate Wing
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: I81-086 (R81-083)

Dear Senator Swink:

We are writing in response to your letter of May 26, 1981 in which you asked two questions concerning consolidation of justice of the peace precincts.

The Arizona Supreme Court, in Hellman v. Marquardt, 111 Ariz. 95, 523 P.2d 792 (1974), held that a justice of the peace is not a state officer, but rather is a county officer under the jurisdiction of the county board of supervisors.

The Attorney General is not authorized to address questions that are clearly within the jurisdiction of county officers. The proper party to address legal questions concerning county matters is the county's legal advisor, the county attorney. Accordingly, we must decline to answer your request.

Sincerely,

Bob Corbin

BOB CORBIN
Attorney General

BC:LPS:eb