

T. 910/871
DJ 166-012-3
DIN:LCB:par

Mr. Leonard E. Yokum
Office of the District Attorney
Twenty-First Judicial District
Amite, Louisiana 70422

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Dear Mr. Yokum:

This is in response to your letter of August 5, 1971, in which you enclosed a Resolution adopted by the St. Helena Parish Police Jury on August 5, 1971 regarding the reapportionment of the Police Jury Ward and indicating that the maps representing the changes would follow. However, these maps have not yet been received by the Department.

As you may know, the statute permitting the establishment of less than 5 police jury wards (Act 445 passed during the 1968 Louisiana Legislative Session) was submitted to the Attorney General pursuant to Section 5 and was objected to by him on June 10, 1969. Because of this earlier objection to the enabling legislation and court decisions affecting the statutory power or authority of the local election authorities to adopt a redistricting plan of this type, I must conclude that St. Helena Parish does not have authority to provide for the election procedure submitted on August 5, 1971. See Dyer v. Love, 307 F. Supp. 974 (N.D. Miss. 1969).

On the basis of the information before me and in the light of the earlier objection to the enabling act, I must on behalf of the Attorney General interpose an objection to the implementation of the resolution adopted August 5, 1971, regarding the changes in the election procedure of St. Helena Parish. If you have any questions concerning this matter please feel free to contact me or my staff.

Sincerely,

DAVID L. NORMAN
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division