



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY McMASTER
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

For Immediate Release
September 14, 2005

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McMaster: Pledge OK In SC Schools

Columbia, S.C. – Attorney General Henry McMaster made the following statement after a federal judge in San Francisco ruled unconstitutional the reciting of the pledge of allegiance in schools.

“This ridiculous decision in no way prevents South Carolina schoolchildren from continuing to recite the pledge of allegiance each day. The decision is limited only to the federal ninth circuit and will almost certainly be overturned, as the Supreme Court has previously suggested the pledge is constitutional.”

“Our teachers and schoolchildren in South Carolina may, and should, continue to legally recite the pledge of allegiance as state law requires.”

“These wacky rulings may soon become a thing of the past with President Bush continuing to appoint conservative jurists to the federal judiciary who interpret and apply the constitution properly instead of legislating from the bench.”

Note: SC Code 59-1-455 requires all public school students K-12 to each day say the pledge of allegiance, and allows for students to decline participation if they so desire.

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