

(Answer by Letter) Klaffenbach

April 16, 1970

OPINION LETTER NO. 277

Honorable James S. Stubbs
Prosecuting Attorney
Livingston County Court House
Chillicothe, Missouri 64601



Dear Mr. Stubbs:

This letter is in response to your opinion request concerning an inhabitant of Livingston County who was charged with a felony in Livingston County, obtained a change of venue to Carroll County, and thereafter, while in the Carroll County jail, became sick and required hospitalization and surgery which was performed in a hospital at Carrollton, Missouri. Specifically, you question whether the county court of Livingston County has the authority to pay for the hospitalization and medical treatment of the prisoner. You also advised that you consider this person a poor person.

In previous correspondence to you, we sent you the following opinions: i.e.

Opinion No. 133, Blanck, 5-2-68
Opinion No. 31, Hess, 1-26-65
Opinion No. 35, Gullic, 10-26-49
Opinion No. 16, Chamier, 10-12-38
Opinion No. 3, Smith, 2-28-33

We are also enclosing our Opinion No. 8, 1-13-70, to Becker, relative to the same question.

For the reasons stated in these opinions, it is our view that the County Court of Livingston County does have the authority to

Honorable James S. Stubbs

pay medical and hospital bills of one of its inhabitants, within the meaning of Section 205.600, who is deemed by the court to be a "poor" person even though such person is given such medical treatment and hospitalization outside the boundaries of Livingston County.

Very truly yours,

JOHN C. DANFORTH
Attorney General

Enclosure: Op. No. 8, 1-13-70, Becker