

073-453—December 10, 1973

ADULT RIGHTS LAW

**PERSONS EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER MAY
PAWN MERCHANDISE**

To: John J. Blair, State Attorney, Sarasota

Prepared by: Jan Dunn, Assistant Attorney General

QUESTION:

May pawnbrokers accept merchandise and other articles from eighteen-year-olds?

SUMMARY:

Pawnbrokers may accept merchandise from eighteen-year-olds if there was formerly an age requirement of twenty-one.

I am unaware of any state age regulations on this subject. However, if there is a municipal or county ordinance providing that a pawnbroker can only accept merchandise from persons twenty-one years of age or older, then under Ch. 73-21, Laws of Florida [§743.07 F. S.], which gives to persons eighteen to twenty years of age the same rights and obligations as were possessed by persons twenty-one years of age or older, the age requirement of twenty-one is changed to eighteen.

073-454—December 10, 1973

STATE FIRE MARSHAL

**AGENTS' POWERS—SERVICE OF PROCESS, ARREST,
CARRY FIREARMS, SEARCH AND SEIZURE**

To: Jack B. McPherson, City Attorney, New Port Richey

Prepared by: Joseph C. Mellichamp III, Assistant Attorney General

QUESTION:

May the chief of an organized fire department serve summonses, make arrests, carry firearms, and conduct searches and seizures incident to his duties as an ex officio agent of the state fire marshal?

SUMMARY:

The chief of an organized fire department may serve summonses, make arrests, carry firearms, and conduct searches and seizures incident to his duties as an ex officio agent of the state fire marshal while enforcing the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

Your question is answered in the affirmative.

Section 633.121, F. S., provides in part that "[c]hiefs of fire departments . . . shall be ex officio agents of the state fire marshal" Section 633.13, F. S., states that:

The authority given the state fire marshal under this law may be exercised by his agents, either individually or in conjunction with any other state or local official charged with similar responsibilities.

And, §633.14, F. S., provides that:

Agents of the state fire marshal shall have the same authority to serve