

**Opinion No. 22-3295**

February 21, 1922

**BY:** HARRY S. BOWMAN, Attorney General

**TO:** Mr. Fred C. Stringfellow, Assistant District Attorney, Raton, New Mexico.

**Offering Reward Payable From County Funds for Capture of Criminals.**

**OPINION**

{\*125} In reply to that part of your letter of the 7th instant asking if Boards of County Commissioners have authority to offer rewards for the capture and conviction of criminals, I wish to advise you that {\*126} there is no statutory authority for the expenditure of county funds for such purpose.

It might be held that Boards of County Commissioners, under their broad statutory powers, might use county funds to pay rewards for the capture and conviction of criminals, but it would be necessary that provision for the collection of such funds should be contained in the regular county budgets. If the budget of your county has an item covering such a fund, then probably the expenditure thereof by the Board of County Commissioners would be proper.