

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021**

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**SENATE BILL 300  
Judiciary Committee Substitute Adopted 5/5/21  
Judiciary Committee Substitute Adopted 5/11/21  
Fourth Edition Engrossed 5/12/21**

Short Title: Criminal Justice Reform.

(Public)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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March 16, 2021

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO INCREASE PROTECTIONS, TRAINING, AND OVERSIGHT FOR STATE  
2 AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; TO CREATE A DECERTIFICATION  
3 DATABASE; TO REQUIRE USE OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION'S  
4 NEXT GENERATION IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM AND RAP BACK SERVICE FOR  
5 LAW ENFORCEMENT; TO REQUIRE REPORTING RELATED TO GIGLIO  
6 MATERIAL; TO EXPAND TRANSPORTATION OF INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT  
7 RESPONDENTS; TO STANDARDIZE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ENTRY  
8 REQUIREMENTS AND ONGOING REQUIREMENTS; TO REQUIRE  
9 PSYCHOLOGICAL SCREENINGS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS PRIOR TO  
10 CERTIFICATION OR EMPLOYMENT; TO EDUCATE LAW ENFORCEMENT  
11 OFFICERS ON MAINTAINING GOOD MENTAL HEALTH, AND TO PROVIDE  
12 INFORMATION TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ON MENTAL HEALTH  
13 RESOURCES AVAILABLE; TO CREATE A PHYSICAL FITNESS STUDY; TO  
14 EXPAND THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS' COURT DATE  
15 REMINDER SYSTEM; TO DECRIMINALIZE CERTAIN LOCAL ORDINANCES AND  
16 PROVIDE COMPLIANCE AS A DEFENSE TO AN ORDINANCE VIOLATION; TO  
17 INCREASE THE PUNISHMENT FOR RIOT OFFENSES; TO MANDATE  
18 MISDEMEANOR FIRST APPEARANCES WHEN A DEFENDANT IS IN CUSTODY;  
19 TO REQUIRE USE OF THE NATIONAL DECERTIFICATION INDEX MAINTAINED  
20 BY THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DIRECTORS OF LAW  
21 ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS AND TRAINING IN THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS  
22 FOR CERTIFIED PERSONNEL; TO ESTABLISH A DUTY FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT  
23 OFFICERS TO INTERVENE IN AND REPORT EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE; TO  
24 ADDRESS CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES WITH SATELLITE-BASED MONITORING  
25 RAISED IN STATE VERSUS GRADY AND CREATE A PROCESS TO REVIEW  
26 WHETHER OFFENDERS SUBJECT TO THAT CASE WHICH WERE REMOVED  
27 FROM SATELLITE-BASED MONITORING ARE OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE; TO  
28 REMOVE THE STANDARDS COMMISSIONS FROM A NONEXCLUSIVE LIST OF  
29 STATE AGENCY LICENSING BOARDS; TO PROTECT LAW ENFORCEMENT  
30 OFFICERS; AND TO AMEND THE LAW TO PROVIDE IMMEDIATE DISCLOSURE  
31 OF BODY-WORN CAMERA RECORDINGS RELATED TO DEATH OR SERIOUS  
32 BODILY INJURY.  
33

34 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:



1  
2 **PART I. DECERTIFICATION STATEWIDE DATABASE AND PUBLIC LAW**  
3 **ENFORCEMENT DATABASE REGULATIONS**

4 **SECTION 1.(a)** Article 1 of Chapter 17C of the General Statutes is amended by  
5 adding a new section to read:

6 **"§ 17C-14. Database of law enforcement officer certification suspensions and revocations.**

7 The Commission shall develop and maintain a statewide database accessible to the public on  
8 its website that contains all revocations and suspensions of law enforcement officer certifications  
9 by the Commission."

10 **SECTION 1.(b)** Chapter 17E of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new  
11 section to read:

12 **"§ 17E-14. Database of justice officer certification suspensions and revocations.**

13 The Commission shall develop and maintain a statewide database accessible to the public on  
14 its website that contains all revocations and suspensions of justice officer certifications by the  
15 Commission."

16 **SECTION 1.(c)** This section becomes effective October 1, 2021.

17  
18 **PART II. REQUIRE USE OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION'S NEXT**  
19 **GENERATION IDENTIFICATION (NGI) SYSTEM AND RAP BACK SERVICE**

20 **SECTION 2.(a)** Article 13 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by  
21 adding a new section to read:

22 **"§ 143B-972.1. Criminal record checks for North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and**  
23 **Training Standards Commission and North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and**  
24 **Training Standards Commission; fingerprints sent to Federal Bureau of**  
25 **Investigation.**

26 (a) The State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) shall provide to the North Carolina Criminal  
27 Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and the North Carolina Sheriffs'  
28 Education and Training Standards Commission the criminal history of any person who applies  
29 for certification or is certified, as a criminal justice officer or justice officer, from the State and  
30 National Repositories of Criminal Histories. Each agency employing certified criminal justice  
31 officers or justice officers shall provide to the SBI, the fingerprints of any person who applies for  
32 certification and certified officers, other identifying information required by the State and  
33 National Repositories, and any additional information required by the SBI.

34 (b) The SBI shall conduct a criminal history records check using the fingerprints of the  
35 applicants and certified officers, in accordance with 12 NCAC 09B. 0103 and 12 NCAC 10B.  
36 0302, and enroll the fingerprints in the Statewide Automated Fingerprint Identification System  
37 (SAFIS).

38 (c) In addition to searching the State's criminal history record file, the SBI shall forward  
39 a set of fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for a national criminal history  
40 record check. The SBI shall enroll each individual whose fingerprints are received under this  
41 section in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Next Generation Identification (NGI) System and  
42 Criminal Justice Record of Arrest and Prosecution Background (Rap Back) Service. The SBI  
43 will also notify the certifying Commission of any subsequent arrest of an individual identified  
44 through the Rap Back Service.

45 (d) Within 15 business days of receiving notification by either Commission that the  
46 individual whose fingerprints have been stored in the State Automated Fingerprint Identification  
47 System (SAFIS) pursuant to subsection (b) of this section has withdrawn the application or  
48 separated from employment and an Affidavit of Separation has been filed with either  
49 Commission, the SBI shall remove the individual's fingerprints from SAFIS and forward a  
50 request to the FBI to remove the fingerprints from the NGI System and the Criminal Justice Rap  
51 Back Service.

1 (e) The Commissions shall keep all information obtained pursuant to this section  
2 confidential."

3 **SECTION 2.(b)** No later than June 30, 2023, all personnel certified by either  
4 Commission shall have their fingerprints electronically submitted to the SBI for a state and  
5 national criminal history check.

6 **SECTION 2.(c)** This section becomes effective January 1, 2023.

7  
8 **PART III. CRITICAL INCIDENT STATEWIDE DATABASE**

9 **SECTION 3.(a)** G.S. 17C-2 reads as rewritten:

10 **"§ 17C-2. Definitions.**

11 Unless the context clearly otherwise requires, the following definitions apply in this Article:

12 ...

13 (3a) Critical incident. – An incident involving any use of force by a law  
14 enforcement officer that results in death or serious bodily injury to a person.

15 ...."

16 **SECTION 3.(b)** Article 1 of Chapter 17C of the General Statutes is amended by  
17 adding a new section to read:

18 **"§ 17C-15. Database for law enforcement officer critical incident information.**

19 (a) The Division shall develop and maintain a statewide database for use by law  
20 enforcement agencies that tracks all critical incident data of law enforcement officers in North  
21 Carolina.

22 (b) All law enforcement agencies in the State that employ personnel certified by the  
23 Commission shall provide any information requested by the Division to maintain the database  
24 required by subsection (a) of this section.

25 (c) Information collected under this section that is confidential under State or federal law  
26 shall remain confidential.

27 (d) A law enforcement officer who is reported to the Division as having been involved in  
28 a critical incident who disputes being involved in a critical incident has a right, prior to being  
29 placed in the database, to request a hearing in superior court for a determination of whether the  
30 officer's involvement was properly placed in the database."

31 **SECTION 3.(c)** G.S. 17E-2 reads as rewritten:

32 **"§ 17E-2. Definitions.**

33 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the following definitions apply to this Chapter:

34 ...

35 (4) "Critical incident" means an incident involving any use of force by a law  
36 enforcement officer that results in death or serious bodily injury to a person."

37 **SECTION 3.(d)** Chapter 17E of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new  
38 section to read:

39 **"§ 17E-15. Database for justice officer critical incident information.**

40 (a) The Division shall develop and maintain a statewide database for use by law  
41 enforcement agencies that tracks all critical incident data of justice officers in North Carolina.

42 (b) All law enforcement agencies in the State that employ personnel certified by the  
43 Commission shall provide any information requested by the Commission to maintain the  
44 database required by subsection (a) of this section.

45 (c) Information collected under this section that is confidential under State or federal law  
46 shall remain confidential.

47 (d) A justice officer who is reported to the Division as having been involved in a critical  
48 incident who disputes being involved in a critical incident has a right, prior to being placed in the  
49 database, to request a hearing in superior court for a determination of whether the officer's  
50 involvement was properly placed in the database."

1           **SECTION 3.(e)** This section becomes effective October 1, 2021, and applies to  
2 critical incidents on or after that date.

3  
4 **PART IV. REPORT REQUIREMENT RELATED TO GIGLIO MATERIAL**

5           **SECTION 4.(a)** Article 1 of Chapter 17C of the General Statutes is amended by  
6 adding a new section to read:

7 **"§ 17C-16. Requirement to report material relevant to testimony.**

8           (a) Any person who is certified by the Commission or has received a conditional offer of  
9 employment and who has been notified that the person may not be called to testify at trial based  
10 on bias, interest, or lack of credibility shall report and provide a copy of that notification to the  
11 Criminal Justice Standards Division within 30 days of receiving the notification, except as  
12 provided in subsection (h) of this section. This requirement shall only apply if the person is  
13 notified by one of the following methods:

14           (1) In writing by a superior court judge, district court judge, federal judge, district  
15 attorney, assistant district attorney, United States attorney, or assistant United  
16 States attorney.

17           (2) In open court by a superior court judge, district court judge, or federal judge,  
18 and documented in a written order.

19           (b) The report to the Division shall be in writing and shall state who notified the person  
20 that the person may not be called to testify at trial. A person required to report to the Division  
21 under subsection (a) of this section shall make the same report to the person's agency head within  
22 30 days of being notified that the person may not be called to testify at trial. An agency head who  
23 receives a report that a person in the agency has been notified that the person may not be called  
24 to testify at trial shall also report the notification to the Division in writing within 30 days of the  
25 agency head's receipt of that report.

26           (c) A superior court judge, district court judge, federal judge, district attorney, assistant  
27 district attorney, United States attorney, or assistant United States attorney who notifies a person  
28 that the person may not be called to testify at trial as provided in subsection (a) of this section  
29 shall report that notification to the Division and provide a copy of the written document or order  
30 within 30 days of notifying the person that the person may not be called to testify at trial.

31           (d) If the Division transfers to another agency the certification of any person required to  
32 report to the Division pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the Division shall provide written  
33 notification to both the head of the new agency and the elected district attorney in the  
34 prosecutorial district where the agency is located that the person has been previously notified that  
35 the person may not be called to testify at trial. If the new agency receiving notification pursuant  
36 to this subsection is a State agency, the Division shall notify the elected district attorney in every  
37 prosecutorial district of the State.

38           (e) If any person required to report to the Division pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
39 section is subsequently informed in writing that the notification has been rescinded, the person  
40 shall provide the Division a copy of that document. The provisions of subsection (d) of this  
41 section do not apply if the person required to report pursuant to subsection (a) of this section is  
42 subsequently informed in writing that the notification has been rescinded.

43           (f) No later than March 1 each year, the Commission shall report to the Joint Legislative  
44 Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety regarding the number of individuals for whom  
45 the Division received a report required by subsection (a) of this section during the previous  
46 calendar year. The report shall include information for each case on whether a final agency  
47 decision has been entered and what action, if any, has been taken against each certification. The  
48 report shall not include the name or any other identifying information of any person required to  
49 report pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

50           (g) The reports and notifications received by the Division pursuant to this section shall  
51 not be public record.

1        (h) Any person who has received a notification that may meet the reporting requirement  
2 provided in subsection (a) of this section, may apply for a hearing in superior court for a judicial  
3 determination of whether or not the person received a notification that the person may not be  
4 called to testify at trial based on bias, interest, or lack of credibility. This hearing is limited to  
5 reviewing whether (i) a person who is certified by the Commission or has received a conditional  
6 offer of employment, (ii) has been notified in writing by a superior court judge, district court  
7 judge, federal judge, district attorney, assistant district attorney, United States attorney, or  
8 assistant United States attorney; or notified in open court by a superior court judge, district court  
9 judge, or federal judge, and documented in a written order, and (iii) that notification states that  
10 the person may not be called to testify at trial based on bias, interest, or lack of credibility, not  
11 matters of law or admissibility. The person must provide notice of the hearing to the Division.  
12 One extension of 15 days will be added to the 30-day reporting requirement provided in  
13 subsection (a) of this section if notice of a hearing is received."

14        **SECTION 4.(b)** Chapter 17E of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new  
15 section to read:

16 **"§ 17E-16. Requirement to report material relevant to testimony.**

17        (a) Any person who is certified by the Commission or has received a conditional offer of  
18 employment and who has been notified that the person may not be called to testify at trial based  
19 on bias, interest, or lack of credibility shall report and provide a copy of that notification to the  
20 Justice Officers' Standards Division within 30 days of receiving the notification, except as  
21 provided in subsection (h) of this section. This requirement shall only apply if the person is  
22 notified by one of the following methods:

23            (1) In writing by a superior court judge, district court judge, federal judge, district  
24 attorney, assistant district attorney, United States attorney, or assistant United  
25 States attorney.

26            (2) In open court by a superior court judge, district court judge, or federal judge  
27 and documented in a written order.

28        (b) The report to the Division shall be in writing and shall state who notified the person  
29 that the person may not be called to testify at trial. A person required to report to the Division  
30 under subsection (a) of this section shall make the same report to the person's agency head within  
31 30 days of being notified that the person may not be called to testify at trial. An agency head who  
32 receives a report that a person in the agency has been notified that the person may not be called  
33 to testify at trial shall also report the notification to the Division in writing within 30 days of the  
34 agency head's receipt of that report.

35        (c) A superior court judge, district court judge, federal judge, district attorney, assistant  
36 district attorney, United States attorney, or assistant United States attorney who notifies a person  
37 that the person may not be called to testify at trial as provided in subsection (a) of this section  
38 shall report that notification to the Division and provide a copy of the written document or order  
39 within 30 days of notifying the person that the person may not be called to testify at trial.

40        (d) If the Division transfers to another agency the certification of any person required to  
41 report to the Division pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the Division shall provide written  
42 notification to both the head of the new agency and the elected district attorney in the  
43 prosecutorial district where the agency is located that the person has been previously notified that  
44 the person may not be called to testify at trial. If the new agency receiving notification pursuant  
45 to this subsection is a State agency, the Division shall notify the elected district attorney in every  
46 prosecutorial district of the State.

47        (e) If any person required to report to the Division pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
48 section is subsequently informed in writing that that the notification has been rescinded, the  
49 person shall provide the Division a copy of that document. The provisions of subsection (d) of  
50 this section do not apply if the person required to report pursuant to subsection (a) of this section  
51 is subsequently informed in writing that the notification has been rescinded.

1       (f) No later than March 1 each year, the Commission shall report to the Joint Legislative  
2 Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety regarding the number of individuals for whom  
3 the Division received a report required by subsection (a) of this section during the previous  
4 calendar year. The report shall include information for each case on whether a final agency  
5 decision has been entered and what action, if any, has been taken against each certification. The  
6 report shall not include the name or any other identifying information of any person required to  
7 report pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

8       (g) The reports and notifications received by the Division pursuant to this section shall  
9 not be public record.

10       (h) Any person who has received a notification that may meet the reporting requirement  
11 provided in subsection (a) of this section, may apply for a hearing in superior court for a judicial  
12 determination of whether or not the person received a notification that the person may not be  
13 called to testify at trial based on bias, interest, or lack of credibility. This hearing is limited to  
14 reviewing whether (i) a person who is certified by the Commission or has received a conditional  
15 offer of employment, (ii) has been notified in writing by a superior court judge, district court  
16 judge, federal judge, district attorney, assistant district attorney, United States attorney, or  
17 assistant United States attorney; or notified in open court by a superior court judge, district court  
18 judge, or federal judge, and documented in a written order, and (iii) that notification states that  
19 the person may not be called to testify at trial based on bias, interest, or lack of credibility, not  
20 matters of law or admissibility. The person must provide notice of the hearing to the Division.  
21 One extension of 15 days will be added to the 30-day reporting requirement provided in  
22 subsection (a) of this section, if notice of a hearing is received."

23       **SECTION 4.(c)** This section becomes effective October 1, 2021, and applies to  
24 notifications received prior to, on, or after that date by persons required to report pursuant to this  
25 act.

## 27 **PART V. REQUIRE CERTAIN MINIMUM LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER** 28 **STANDARDS**

29       **SECTION 5.(a)** The Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards  
30 Commission and the Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission shall jointly  
31 develop uniform, statewide minimum standards for law enforcement officers and justice officers  
32 and adopt these standards as rules.

33       **SECTION 5.(b)** Each Commission shall report the standards developed pursuant to  
34 subsection (a) of this section to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public  
35 Safety no later than December 31, 2021.

36       **SECTION 5.(c)** Each Commission may adopt temporary rules under G.S. 150B-21.1  
37 to comply with this section and shall adopt permanent rules to comply with this section by  
38 December 31, 2022.

## 40 **PART VI. TRANSPORTATION OF INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT** 41 **RESPONDENTS**

42       **SECTION 6.(a)** G.S. 122C-251(f) reads as rewritten:

43       "(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a), (b), and (c) of this section, a clerk,  
44 a magistrate, or a district court judge, where applicable, may authorize either a health care  
45 provider of the respondent or the family or immediate friends of the respondent, if they so request,  
46 to transport the respondent in accordance with the procedures of this Article. This authorization  
47 shall only be granted in cases where the danger to the public, the health care provider of the  
48 respondent, the family or friends of the respondent, or the respondent himself or herself is not  
49 substantial. The health care provider of the respondent or the family or immediate friends of the  
50 respondent shall bear the costs of providing this transportation."

1           **SECTION 6.(b)** This section becomes effective October 1, 2021, and applies to  
2 custody orders issued on or after that date.

3  
4 **PART VII. LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ENTRY REQUIREMENTS, ONGOING**  
5 **REQUIREMENTS, AND CREATE A PHYSICAL FITNESS STUDY**

6           **SECTION 7.(a)** G.S. 17C-6(a) reads as rewritten:

7           "(a) In addition to powers conferred upon the Commission elsewhere in this Article, the  
8 Commission shall have the following powers, which shall be enforceable through its rules and  
9 regulations, certification procedures, or the provisions of G.S. 17C-10:

10           ...

11           (2) Establish minimum educational and training standards that must be met in  
12 order to qualify for entry level employment and retention as a criminal justice  
13 officer in temporary or probationary status or in a permanent position. The  
14 standards for entry level employment shall include all of the following:

15           ...

16           c.       Education and training to develop knowledge and increase awareness  
17                   of effective mental health and wellness strategies for criminal justice  
18                   officers.

19           ...

20           (14) Establish minimum standards for in-service training for criminal justice  
21 officers. In-service training standards shall include all of the following:

22           ...

23           c.       Training to develop knowledge and increase awareness of effective  
24                   mental health and wellness strategies for criminal justice officers. The  
25                   standards established shall include two hours of training on this issue  
26                   every three years.

27           ...."

28           **SECTION 7.(b)** G.S. 17E-4(a) reads as rewritten:

29           "(a) The Commission shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities, which  
30 are enforceable through its rules and regulations, certification procedures, or the provisions of  
31 G.S. 17E-8 and G.S. 17E-9:

32           ...

33           (2) Establish minimum educational and training standards that may be met in  
34 order to qualify for entry level employment as an officer in temporary or  
35 probationary status or in a permanent position. The standards for entry level  
36 employment of officers shall include all of the following:

37           ...

38           c.       Education and training to develop knowledge and increase awareness  
39                   of effective mental health and wellness strategies for justice officers.

40           ...

41           (11) Establish minimum standards for in-service training for justice officers.  
42 In-service training standards shall include all of the following:

43           ...

44           c.       Training to develop knowledge and increase awareness of effective  
45                   mental health and wellness strategies for justice officers. The  
46                   standards established shall include two hours of training on this issue  
47                   every three years.

48           ...."

49           **SECTION 7.(c)** G.S. 17C-10(c) reads as rewritten:

50           "(c) In addition to the requirements of subsection (b) of this section, the Commission, by  
51 rules and regulations, shall fix other qualifications for the employment, training, and retention of

1 criminal justice officers including minimum age, education, physical and mental standards,  
2 citizenship, good moral character, experience, and such other matters as relate to the competence  
3 and reliability of persons to assume and discharge the responsibilities of criminal justice officers,  
4 ~~and the officers.~~ The Commission shall prescribe the means for presenting evidence of fulfillment  
5 of these requirements. The Commission shall require the administration of a psychological  
6 screening examination, including a face-to-face interview conducted by a licensed psychologist,  
7 to determine the criminal justice officer's psychological suitability to properly fulfill the  
8 responsibilities of the criminal justice officer. The psychological screening examination shall be  
9 given (i) prior to the initial certification or (ii) prior to the criminal justice officer performing any  
10 action requiring certification by the Commission.

11 Where minimum educational standards are not met, yet the individual shows potential and a  
12 willingness to achieve the standards by extra study, they may be waived by the Commission for  
13 the reasonable amount of time it will take to achieve the standards required. Such an educational  
14 waiver shall not exceed 12 months."

15 **SECTION 7.(d)** G.S. 17E-7(c) reads as rewritten:

16 "(c) In addition to the requirements of subsection (b) of this section, the Commission, by  
17 rules and regulations, may fix other qualifications for the employment and retention of justice  
18 officers including minimum age, education, physical and mental standards, citizenship, good  
19 moral character, experience, and such other matters as relate to the competence and reliability of  
20 persons to assume and discharge the responsibilities of the ~~office, and the office.~~ The  
21 Commission shall prescribe the means for presenting evidence of fulfillment of these  
22 requirements. The Commission shall require the administration of a psychological screening  
23 examination, including a face-to-face interview conducted by a licensed psychologist, to  
24 determine the justice officer's psychological suitability to properly fulfill the responsibilities of  
25 the justice officer. The psychological screening examination shall be given (i) prior to the initial  
26 certification or (ii) prior to the criminal justice officer performing any action requiring  
27 certification by the Commission.

28 Where minimum educational standards are not met, yet the individual shows potential and a  
29 willingness to achieve the standards by extra study, they may be waived by the Commission for  
30 the reasonable amount of time it will take to achieve the standards required. Upon petition from  
31 a sheriff, the Commission may grant a waiver of any provisions of this section (17E-7) for any  
32 justice officer serving that sheriff."

33 **SECTION 7.(e)** In developing the standards and training required by subsections (a)  
34 and (b) of this section, the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards  
35 Commission and the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission are  
36 encouraged to adopt standards that provide training conducted by mental health professionals  
37 and through face-to-face instruction.

38 **SECTION 7.(f)** The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training  
39 Standards Commission and the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards  
40 Commission shall regularly provide information on any statewide mental health resources  
41 specifically available to criminal justice officers or justice officers to all criminal justice agencies  
42 or departments in the State that employ officers certified by either Commission.

43 **SECTION 7.(g)** All criminal justice agencies or departments in the State that employ  
44 criminal justice officers certified by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training  
45 Standards Commission or justice officers certified by the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and  
46 Training Standards Commission shall coordinate with the appropriate local management  
47 entity/managed care organization (LME/MCO) or prepaid health plan, as defined under  
48 G.S. 108D-1, to make information on State and local mental health resources and programs easily  
49 available to all employees and develop policies to encourage employees to utilize the resources  
50 available.



1           **SECTION 7.(h)** The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training  
2 Standards Commission and the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards  
3 Commission shall jointly study the benefits, if any, of requiring physical fitness testing  
4 throughout the career of a law enforcement officer, and shall also study whether that testing, if  
5 required, should be incrementally adjusted based upon the age of the law enforcement officer,  
6 and report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety no later  
7 than March 31, 2022.

8           **SECTION 7.(i)** The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training  
9 Standards Commission and the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards  
10 Commission shall implement the requirements of subsections (a) through (d) of this section no  
11 later than January 1, 2022. The requirements of subsections (c) and (d) of this section shall apply  
12 to certifications issued and employees entering employment on or after the implementation date  
13 of those requirements.

14           **SECTION 7.(j)** Subsections (a) through (d) of this section become effective January  
15 1, 2022, and apply to applications for law enforcement certification filed on or after that date.  
16 The remainder of this section is effective when it becomes law.  
17

## 18 **PART VIII. DEVELOPMENT OF EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS**

19           **SECTION 8.(a)** Chapter 17A of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new  
20 section to read:

### 21 **"§ 17A-10. Development of law enforcement early warning system.**

22           (a) Every agency in the State that employs personnel certified by the North Carolina  
23 Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission or the North Carolina Sheriffs'  
24 Education and Training Standards Commission shall develop and implement an early warning  
25 system to document and track the actions and behaviors of law enforcement officers for the  
26 purpose of intervening and improving performance. The early warning system required by this  
27 section shall include information, at a minimum, regarding the following:

28                   (1) Instances of the discharge of a firearm.

29                   (2) Instances of use of force.

30                   (3) Vehicle collisions.

31                   (4) Citizen complaints.

32           (b) Information collected under this section that is confidential under State or federal law  
33 shall remain confidential.

34           (c) For purposes of this section, "law enforcement officer" means any sworn law  
35 enforcement officers with the power of arrest, both State and local."

36           **SECTION 8.(b)** This section becomes effective December 1, 2021, and applies to  
37 actions and behaviors on or after that date.  
38

## 39 **PART IX. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY BEST PRACTICES RECRUITING GUIDE**

40           **SECTION 9.(a)** The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training  
41 Standards Commission and the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards  
42 Commission shall jointly develop a best practices guide to help law enforcement agencies recruit  
43 and retain a diverse workforce.

44           **SECTION 9.(b)** The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training  
45 Standards Commission and the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards  
46 Commission shall report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public  
47 Safety no later than April 1, 2022, regarding the best practices guide required by subsection (a)  
48 of this section.  
49

## 50 **PART X. INVESTIGATIONS OF OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTINGS**

51           **SECTION 10.(a)** G.S. 143B-919 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(b1) The Bureau shall, upon request of the Governor or a sheriff, chief of police, head of a State law enforcement agency, district attorney, or the Commissioner of Prisons, investigate and prepare evidence in the event of any of the following:

- (1) A sworn law enforcement officer with the power to arrest uses force against an individual in the performance of the officer's duties that results in the death of, or serious bodily injury to, the individual.
- (2) An individual in the custody of the Department of Public Safety, a State prison, a county jail, or a local confinement facility, regardless of the physical location of the individual, dies or suffers serious bodily injury.

"Serious bodily injury" as used in this subsection is defined as bodily injury that creates a substantial risk of death, or that causes serious permanent disfigurement, coma, a permanent or protracted condition that causes extreme pain, or permanent or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ, or that results in prolonged hospitalization."

**SECTION 10.(b)** This section becomes effective October 1, 2021.

**PART XI. MANDATORY IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**

**SECTION 11.(a)** G.S. 17C-6(a), as amended by Section 7 of this act, reads as rewritten:

"(a) In addition to powers conferred upon the Commission elsewhere in this Article, the Commission shall have the following powers, which shall be enforceable through its rules and regulations, certification procedures, or the provisions of G.S. 17C-10:

- ...
- (14) Establish minimum standards for in-service training for criminal justice officers. In-service training standards for sworn law enforcement officers shall include all of the ~~following~~following training topics:
  - a. ~~Training in response~~ Response to, and investigation of, domestic violence cases, as well as training investigation for evidence-based prosecutions.
  - b. ~~Training on juvenile~~ Juvenile justice issues, including (i) the handling and processing of juvenile matters for referrals, diversion, arrests, and detention; (ii) best practices for handling incidents involving juveniles; (iii) adolescent development and psychology; and (iv) promoting relationship building with youth as a key to delinquency prevention.
  - c. Ethics.
  - d. Mental health for criminal justice officers.
  - e. Community policing.
  - f. Minority sensitivity.
  - g. Use of force.
  - h. The duty to intervene and report.

...."

**SECTION 11.(b)** G.S. 17E-4(a), as amended by Section 7 of this act, reads as rewritten:

"(a) The Commission shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities, which are enforceable through its rules and regulations, certification procedures, or the provisions of G.S. 17E-8 and G.S. 17E-9:

- ...
- (11) Establish minimum standards for in-service training for justice officers. In-service training standards for sworn law enforcement officers shall include all of the ~~following~~following training topics:

- 1 a. ~~Training in response~~ Response to, and investigation of, domestic  
 2 violence cases, as well as training in investigation for evidence-based  
 3 prosecutions. For purposes of the domestic violence training  
 4 requirement, the term "justice officer" shall include those defined in  
 5 G.S. 17E-2(3)a., except that the term shall not include "special deputy  
 6 sheriffs" as defined in G.S. 17E-2(3)a.
- 7 b. ~~Training on juvenile~~ Juvenile justice issues, including (i) the handling  
 8 and processing of juvenile matters for referrals, diversion, arrests, and  
 9 detention; (ii) best practices for handling incidents involving juveniles;  
 10 (iii) adolescent development and psychology; and (iv) promoting  
 11 relationship building with youth as a key to delinquency prevention.
- 12 c. Ethics.
- 13 d. Mental health for justice officers.
- 14 e. Community policing.
- 15 f. Minority sensitivity.
- 16 g. Use of force.
- 17 h. The duty to intervene and report.

18 ...."

19 **SECTION 11.(c)** This section becomes effective January 1, 2022.

20  
 21 **PART XII. EXEMPT CHANGES TO LAW ENFORCEMENT IN-SERVICE TRAINING**  
 22 **STANDARDS FROM RULEMAKING**

23 **SECTION 12.(a)** G.S. 150B-1(d) reads as rewritten:

24 "(d) Exemptions from Rule Making. – Article 2A of this Chapter does not apply to the  
 25 following:

26 ...

27 (6a) The Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission with  
 28 respect to establishing minimum standards for in-service training for criminal  
 29 justice officers under G.S. 17C-6(a)(14).

30 (6b) The Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission with respect to  
 31 establishing minimum standards for in-service training for justice officers  
 32 under G.S. 17E-4(a)(11).

33 ...."

34 **SECTION 12.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law.

35  
 36 **PART XIII. UTILIZE TECHNOLOGY TO LIMIT FAILURES TO APPEAR IN COURT**

37 **SECTION 13.(a)** The Administrative Office of the Courts shall automatically enroll  
 38 all criminal defendants into its court date reminder system. A criminal defendant shall be allowed  
 39 to opt out of this automatic enrollment by using processes developed by the Administrative Office  
 40 of the Courts. The processes that allow a criminal defendant to opt out of this automatic  
 41 enrollment shall be developed and implemented no later than December 1, 2021.

42 **SECTION 13.(b)** This section becomes effective December 1, 2021, and applies to  
 43 criminal defendants arrested on or after that date.

44  
 45 **PART XIV. DECRIMINALIZATION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES**

46 **SECTION 14.(a)** G.S. 153A-123 reads as rewritten:

47 "§ 153A-123. **Enforcement of ordinances.**

48 ...

49 (b) ~~Unless the board of commissioners has provided otherwise, Except for the types of~~  
 50 ordinances listed in subsection (b1) of this section, violation of a county ordinance is  
 51 may be a misdemeanor or infraction as provided by G.S. 14-4. G.S. 14-4 only if the county specifies such

1 in the ordinance. An ordinance may provide by express statement that the maximum fine, term  
 2 of imprisonment, or infraction penalty to be imposed for a violation is some amount of money or  
 3 number of days less than the maximum imposed by G.S. 14-4. Notwithstanding G.S. 153A-45,  
 4 no ordinance specifying a criminal penalty may be enacted at the meeting in which it is first  
 5 introduced.

6 (b1) No ordinance of the following types may impose a criminal penalty:

- 7 (1) Any ordinance adopted under Article 18 of this Chapter, Planning and  
 8 Regulation of Development or, its successor, Chapter 160D of the General  
 9 Statutes, except for those ordinances related to unsafe buildings.
- 10 (2) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 153A-134, Regulating and licensing  
 11 businesses, trades, etc.
- 12 (3) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 153A-138, Registration of mobile  
 13 homes, house trailers, etc.
- 14 (4) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 153A-140.1, Stream-clearing  
 15 programs.
- 16 (5) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 153A-143, Regulation of outdoor  
 17 advertising or, its successor, G.S. 160D-912, Outdoor advertising.
- 18 (6) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 153A-144, Limitations on regulating  
 19 solar collectors or, its successor, G.S. 160D-914, Solar collectors.
- 20 (7) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 153A-145, Limitations on regulating  
 21 cisterns and rain barrels.
- 22 (8) Any ordinance regulating trees.

23 ...."

24 **SECTION 14.(b)** G.S. 160A-175 reads as rewritten:

25 **"§ 160A-175. Enforcement of ordinances.**

26 ...

27 (b) ~~Unless the Council shall otherwise provide,~~ Except for the types of ordinances listed  
 28 in subsection (b1) of this section, violation of a city ordinance ~~is~~ may be a misdemeanor or  
 29 infraction as provided by ~~G.S. 14-4.~~ G.S. 14-4 only if the city specifies such in the ordinance. An  
 30 ordinance may provide by express statement that the maximum fine, term of imprisonment, or  
 31 infraction penalty to be imposed for a violation is some amount of money or number of days less  
 32 than the maximum imposed by G.S. 14-4. Notwithstanding G.S. 160A-75, no ordinance  
 33 specifying a criminal penalty may be enacted at the meeting in which it is first introduced.

34 (b1) No ordinance of the following types may impose a criminal penalty:

- 35 (1) Any ordinance adopted under Article 19 of this Chapter, Planning and  
 36 Regulation of Development, or its successor, Chapter 160D of the General  
 37 Statutes, except for those ordinances related to unsafe buildings.
- 38 (2) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 160A-193.1, Stream-clearing  
 39 programs.
- 40 (3) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 160A-194, Regulating and licensing  
 41 businesses, trades, etc.
- 42 (4) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 160A-199, Regulation of outdoor  
 43 advertising or, its successor, G.S. 160D-912, Outdoor advertising.
- 44 (5) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 160A-201, Limitations on regulating  
 45 solar collectors or, its successor, G.S. 160D-914, Solar collectors.
- 46 (6) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 160A-202, Limitations on regulating  
 47 cisterns and rain barrels.
- 48 (7) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 160A-304, Regulation of taxis.
- 49 (8) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 160A-306, Building setback lines.
- 50 (9) Any ordinance adopted pursuant to G.S. 160A-307, Curb cut regulations.
- 51 (10) Any ordinance regulating trees.

1 ...."

2 SECTION 14.(c) G.S. 14-4 reads as rewritten:

3 **"§ 14-4. Violation of local ordinances misdemeanor.**

4 (a) Except as provided in ~~subsection (b), this section,~~ if any person shall violate an  
5 ordinance of a county, city, town, or metropolitan sewerage district created under Article 5 of  
6 Chapter 162A, he shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than five  
7 hundred dollars (\$500.00). No fine shall exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00) unless the ordinance  
8 expressly states that the maximum fine is greater than fifty dollars (\$50.00).

9 (b) If any person shall violate an ordinance of a county, city, or town regulating the  
10 operation or parking of vehicles, he shall be responsible for an infraction and shall be required to  
11 pay a penalty of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00).

12 (c) A person may not be found responsible or guilty of a local ordinance violation if,  
13 when tried for that violation, the person produces proof of compliance with the local ordinance  
14 through any of the following:

15 (1) No new alleged violations of the local ordinance within 30 days from the date  
16 of the initial alleged violation.

17 (2) The person provides proof of a good-faith effort to seek assistance to address  
18 any underlying factors related to unemployment, homelessness, mental health,  
19 or substance abuse that might relate to the person's ability to comply with the  
20 local ordinance."

21 SECTION 14.(d) This section becomes effective December 1, 2021, and applies to  
22 offenses and violations committed on or after that date.

23  
24 **PART XV. INCREASE THE PUNISHMENT FOR RIOT OFFENSES**

25 SECTION 15.(a) G.S. 14-288.2 reads as rewritten:

26 **"§ 14-288.2. Riot; inciting to riot; punishments.**

27 (a) A riot is a public disturbance involving an assemblage of three or more persons which  
28 by disorderly and violent conduct, or the imminent threat of disorderly and violent conduct,  
29 results in injury or damage to persons or property or creates a clear and present danger of injury  
30 or damage to persons or property.

31 (b) Any person who willfully engages in a riot is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

32 (c) Any person who willfully engages in a riot is guilty of a Class ~~H-G~~ felony, if:

33 (1) ~~In the course and as a result of the riot there is if in the course of the riot, the~~  
34 ~~person causes property damage in excess of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500)~~  
35 ~~or serious bodily injury; or (\$1,500).~~

36 (c1) Any person who willfully engages in a riot is guilty of a Class F felony if one of the  
37 following applies:

38 (1) In the course of the riot, the person causes serious bodily injury to another.

39 (2) ~~Such participant in the riot has in his possession any~~ In the course of the riot,  
40 the person brandishes a dangerous weapon or uses a dangerous substance.

41 (d) Any person who willfully incites or urges another to engage in a riot, so that as a  
42 result of such inciting or urging a riot occurs or a clear and present danger of a riot is created, is  
43 guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

44 (e) Any person who willfully incites or urges another to engage in a riot, and such inciting  
45 or urging is a contributing cause of a riot in which there is property damage in excess of fifteen  
46 hundred dollars (\$1,500) or serious bodily injury, shall be punished as a Class F felon.

47 (f) For the purposes of this section, "dangerous substance" may include, but is not limited  
48 to, tear gas or pepper spray.

49 (g) Mere presence alone without an overt act is not sufficient to sustain a conviction  
50 pursuant to this section."

1           **SECTION 15.(b)** This section becomes effective December 1, 2021, and applies to  
2 offenses committed on or after that date.

3  
4 **PART XVI. REQUIRE MANDATORY FIRST APPEARANCE FOR MISDEMEANORS**  
5 **WHEN DEFENDANT IS IN CUSTODY AND REQUIRE FIRST APPEARANCE FOR**  
6 **ALL CHARGES WHEN DEFENDANT IS IN CUSTODY TO BE HELD WITHIN**  
7 **SEVENTY-TWO HOURS**

8           **SECTION 16.(a)** G.S. 15A-601 reads as rewritten:

9 **"§ 15A-601. First appearance before a district court judge; ~~right in felony and other cases~~**  
10 **~~in original jurisdiction of superior court; consolidation of first appearance~~**  
11 **before magistrate and before district court judge; first appearance before clerk**  
12 **of superior court; use of two-way audio and video transmission.**

13           (a) Any defendant charged in a magistrate's order under G.S. 15A-511 or criminal  
14 process under Article 17 of this Chapter, Criminal Process, with a crime in the original  
15 jurisdiction of the superior court must be brought before a district court judge in the district court  
16 district as defined in G.S. 7A-133 in which the crime is charged to have been committed. This  
17 first appearance before a district court judge is not a critical stage of the proceedings against the  
18 defendant.

19           Any defendant charged in a magistrate's order under G.S. 15A-511 or criminal process under  
20 Article 17 of this Chapter, Criminal Process, with a misdemeanor offense and held in custody  
21 must be brought before a district court judge in the district court district as defined in G.S. 7A-133  
22 in which the crime is charged to have been committed. This first appearance before a district  
23 court judge is not a critical stage of the proceedings against the defendant.

24           ...

25           (b) When a district court judge conducts an initial appearance as provided in  
26 G.S. 15A-511, ~~he~~ the judge may consolidate those proceedings and the proceedings under this  
27 Article.

28           (c) Unless the defendant is released pursuant to Article 26 of this Chapter, Bail, first  
29 appearance before a district court judge must be held within ~~96-72~~ hours after the defendant is  
30 taken into custody or at the first regular session of the district court in the county, whichever  
31 occurs first. If the defendant is not taken into custody, or is released pursuant to Article 26 of this  
32 Chapter, Bail, within ~~96-72~~ hours after being taken into custody, first appearance must be held at  
33 the next session of district court held in the county. This subsection does not apply to a defendant  
34 whose first appearance before a district court judge has been set in a criminal summons pursuant  
35 to G.S. 15A-303(d).

36           ...

37           (e) The clerk of the superior court in the county in which the defendant is taken into  
38 custody may conduct a first appearance as provided in this Article if a district court judge is not  
39 available in the county within ~~96-72~~ hours after the defendant is taken into custody. The clerk, in  
40 conducting a first appearance, shall proceed under this Article as would a district court judge."

41           **SECTION 16.(b)** This section becomes effective December 1, 2021, and applies to  
42 criminal processes served on or after that date.

43  
44 **PART XVII. REQUIRE USE OF THE NATIONAL DECERTIFICATION INDEX**  
45 **MAINTAINED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DIRECTORS OF LAW**  
46 **ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS AND TRAINING IN THE CERTIFICATION**  
47 **PROCESS FOR CERTIFIED PERSONNEL**

48           **SECTION 17.(a)** G.S. 17E-4(a) reads as rewritten:

49           "(a) The Commission shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities, which  
50 are enforceable through its rules and regulations, certification procedures, or the provisions of  
51 G.S. 17E-8 and G.S. 17E-9:

1 ...  
2 (17) Search the National Decertification Index (NDI) maintained by the  
3 International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and  
4 Training (IADLEST) using the name of every applicant for certification or  
5 applicant for lateral transfer, and any other personal identifying information  
6 necessary to complete the search, and shall utilize any record of conviction of  
7 a criminal offense received as a result of the search during the application and  
8 lateral transfer process to determine if the applicant has any record that would  
9 disqualify the applicant for certification.

10 ...."

11 **SECTION 17.(b)** G.S. 17C-6(a) reads as rewritten:

12 "(a) In addition to powers conferred upon the Commission elsewhere in this Article, the  
13 Commission shall have the following powers, which shall be enforceable through its rules and  
14 regulations, certification procedures, or the provisions of G.S. 17C-10:

15 ...  
16 (21) Search the National Decertification Index (NDI) maintained by the  
17 International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and  
18 Training (IADLEST) using the name of every applicant for certification or  
19 applicant for lateral transfer, and any other personal identifying information  
20 necessary to complete the search, and shall utilize any record of conviction of  
21 a criminal offense received as a result of the search during the application and  
22 lateral transfer process to determine if the applicant has any record that would  
23 disqualify the applicant for certification."

24 **SECTION 17.(c)** This section becomes effective October 1, 2021, and applies to  
25 applications for certification submitted on or after that date.

## 26 27 **PART XVIII. ESTABLISH A DUTY FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO** 28 **INTERVENE IN AND REPORT EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE**

29 **SECTION 18.(a)** G.S. 15A-401 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

30 "(d1) Duty to Intervene and Report Excessive Use of Force. – A law enforcement officer,  
31 while in the line of duty, who observes another law enforcement officer use force against another  
32 person that the observing officer reasonably believes exceeds the amount of force authorized by  
33 subsection (d) of this section and who possesses a reasonable opportunity to intervene, shall if it  
34 is safe to do so, attempt to intervene to prevent the use of excessive force. Additionally, the  
35 observing officer shall, within a reasonable period of time not to exceed 72 hours thereafter,  
36 report what the officer reasonably believes to be an unauthorized use of force to a superior law  
37 enforcement officer within the agency of the observing officer, even if the observing officer did  
38 not have a reasonable opportunity to intervene. If the head of the law enforcement agency of the  
39 observing officer was involved or present during what the observing officer reasonably believes  
40 to be unauthorized use of force, the observing officer shall make the report to the highest ranking  
41 law enforcement officer of that officer's agency who was not involved in or present during the  
42 use of force. The report under this subsection is required even if the observing officer did not  
43 have a reasonable opportunity to intervene."

44 **SECTION 18.(b)** This section becomes effective December 1, 2021, and applies to  
45 uses of force that occur on or after that date.

## 46 47 **PART XIX. REMOVE THE STANDARDS COMMISSIONS FROM A NONEXCLUSIVE** 48 **LIST OF STATE AGENCY LICENSING BOARDS**

49 **SECTION 19.(a)** G.S. 93B-1(3)(e) is repealed.

50 **SECTION 19.(b)** This section becomes effective December 1, 2021.

1 **PART XX. ADDRESS CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES WITH SATELLITE-BASED**  
2 **MONITORING RAISED IN STATE V. GRADY AND CREATE A PROCESS TO**  
3 **REVIEW WHETHER OFFENDERS SUBJECT TO THAT CASE WHICH WERE**  
4 **REMOVED FROM SATELLITE-BASED MONITORING ARE OTHERWISE**  
5 **ELIGIBLE**

6 **SECTION 20.(a)** Part V of Article 27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is  
7 amended by adding a new section to read:

8 **"§ 14-208.39. Legislative finding of efficacy.**

9 The General Assembly finds that empirical and statistical reports such as the 2015 California  
10 Study, "Does GPS Improve Recidivism among High Risk Sex Offenders? Outcomes for  
11 California's GPS Pilot for High Risk Sex Offender Parolees," show that sex offenders monitored  
12 with the global positioning system (GPS) are less likely than other sex offenders to receive a  
13 violation for committing a new crime, and that offenders monitored by GPS demonstrated  
14 significantly better outcomes for both increasing compliance and reducing recidivism. It is the  
15 intent of the General Assembly to protect the public from victimization. Therefore, the General  
16 Assembly recognizes that the GPS monitoring program is an effective tool to deter criminal  
17 behavior among sex offenders."

18 **SECTION 20.(b)** G.S. 14-208.6 reads as rewritten:

19 **"§ 14-208.6. Definitions.**

20 The following definitions apply in this Article:

21 ...

22 (3e) Reoffender. – A person who has two or more convictions for a felony that is  
23 described in G.S. 14-208.6(4).

24 ...."

25 **SECTION 20.(c)** G.S. 14-208.40 reads as rewritten:

26 **"§ 14-208.40. Establishment of program; creation of guidelines; duties.**

27 (a) The Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice of the Department of Public  
28 Safety shall establish a sex offender monitoring program that uses a continuous satellite-based  
29 monitoring system and shall create guidelines to govern the program. The program shall be  
30 designed to monitor three categories of offenders as follows:

31 (1) Any offender who is convicted of a reportable conviction as defined by  
32 G.S. 14-208.6(4) and who is required to register under Part 3 of Article 27A  
33 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes because the defendant is classified as a  
34 sexually violent predator, is a ~~recidivist~~, reoffender, or was convicted of an  
35 aggravated offense as those terms are defined in G.S. 14-208.6.

36 (2) Any offender who satisfies all of the following criteria: (i) is convicted of a  
37 reportable conviction as defined by G.S. 14-208.6(4), (ii) is required to  
38 register under Part 2 of Article 27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes, (iii)  
39 has committed an offense involving the physical, mental, or sexual abuse of a  
40 minor, and (iv) based on the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile  
41 Justice's risk assessment program requires the highest possible level of  
42 supervision and monitoring.

43 (3) Any offender who is convicted of G.S. 14-27.23 or G.S. 14-27.28, who shall  
44 be enrolled in the satellite-based monitoring program for ~~the offender's natural~~  
45 ~~life upon~~ 10 years after the termination of the offender's active  
46 punishment, punishment, or the completion of any period of probation,  
47 whichever occurs later.

48 (b) In developing the guidelines for the program, the Division of Adult Correction and  
49 Juvenile Justice shall require that any offender who is enrolled in the satellite-based program  
50 submit to an active continuous satellite-based monitoring program, unless an active program will  
51 not work as provided by this section. If the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice



1 determines that an active program will not work as provided by this section, then the Division of  
2 Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice shall require that the defendant submit to a passive  
3 continuous satellite-based program that works within the technological or geographical  
4 limitations.

5 (c) The satellite-based monitoring program shall use a system that provides all of the  
6 following:

- 7 (1) Time-correlated and continuous tracking of the geographic location of the  
8 subject using a global positioning system based on satellite and other location  
9 tracking technology.
- 10 (2) Reporting of subject's violations of prescriptive and proscriptive schedule or  
11 location requirements. Frequency of reporting may range from once a day  
12 (passive) to near real-time (active).

13 (d) The Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice may contract with a single  
14 vendor for the hardware services needed to monitor subject offenders and correlate their  
15 movements to reported crime incidents. The contract may provide for services necessary to  
16 implement or facilitate any of the provisions of this Part."

17 **SECTION 20.(d)** G.S. 14-208.40A reads as rewritten:

18 "**§ 14-208.40A. Determination of satellite-based monitoring requirement by court.**

19 (a) When an offender is convicted of a reportable conviction as defined by  
20 G.S. 14-208.6(4), during the sentencing phase, the district attorney shall present to the court any  
21 evidence that (i) the offender has been classified as a sexually violent predator pursuant to  
22 G.S. 14-208.20, (ii) the offender is a ~~recidivist, reoffender~~, (iii) the conviction offense was an  
23 aggravated offense, (iv) the conviction offense was a violation of G.S. 14-27.23 or G.S. 14-27.28,  
24 or (v) the offense involved the physical, mental, or sexual abuse of a minor. The district attorney  
25 shall have no discretion to withhold any evidence required to be submitted to the court pursuant  
26 to this subsection.

27 The offender shall be allowed to present to the court any evidence that the district attorney's  
28 evidence is not correct.

29 (b) After receipt of the evidence from the parties, the court shall determine whether the  
30 offender's conviction places the offender in one of the categories described in G.S. 14-208.40(a),  
31 and if so, shall make a finding of fact of that determination, specifying whether (i) the offender  
32 has been classified as a sexually violent predator pursuant to G.S. 14-208.20, (ii) the offender is  
33 a ~~recidivist, reoffender~~, (iii) the conviction offense was an aggravated offense, (iv) the conviction  
34 offense was a violation of G.S. 14-27.23 or G.S. 14-27.28, or (v) the offense involved the  
35 physical, mental, or sexual abuse of a minor.

36 (c) If the court finds that the offender has been classified as a sexually violent predator,  
37 is a ~~recidivist, reoffender~~, has committed an aggravated offense, or was convicted of  
38 G.S. 14-27.23 or G.S. 14-27.28, the court shall order that the offender to enroll in a satellite-based  
39 monitoring program for life. Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice do a risk  
40 assessment of the offender. The Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice shall have a  
41 minimum of 30 days, but not more than 60 days, to complete the risk assessment of the offender  
42 and report the results to the court.

43 (c1) Upon receipt of a risk assessment from the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile  
44 Justice pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the court shall determine whether, based on the  
45 Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice's risk assessment, the offender requires the  
46 highest possible level of supervision and monitoring. If the court determines that the offender  
47 does require the highest possible level of supervision and monitoring, the court shall order the  
48 offender to enroll in a satellite-based monitoring program for a period of 10 years after the  
49 termination of the offender's active punishment, or the completion of any period of probation,  
50 whichever occurs later.

1 (d) If the court finds that the offender committed an offense that involved the physical,  
2 mental, or sexual abuse of a minor, that the offense is not an aggravated offense or a violation of  
3 G.S. 14-27.23 or G.S. 14-27.28 and the offender is not a ~~recidivist, reoffender~~, the court shall  
4 order that the Division of Adult Correction do a risk assessment of the offender. The Division of  
5 Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice shall have a minimum of 30 days, but not more than 60  
6 days, to complete the risk assessment of the offender and report the results to the court.

7 (e) Upon receipt of a risk assessment from the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile  
8 Justice pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, the court shall determine whether, based on the  
9 Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice's risk assessment, the offender requires the  
10 highest possible level of supervision and monitoring. If the court determines that the offender  
11 does require the highest possible level of supervision and monitoring, the court shall order the  
12 offender to enroll in a satellite-based monitoring program for a period of time to be specified by  
13 the ~~court~~ court, not to exceed 10 years after the termination of the offender's active punishment,  
14 or the completion of any period of probation, whichever occurs later."

15 **SECTION 20.(e)** G.S. 14-208.40B reads as rewritten:

16 "**§ 14-208.40B. Determination of satellite-based monitoring requirement in certain**  
17 **circumstances.**

18 (a) When an offender is convicted of a reportable conviction as defined by  
19 G.S. 14-208.6(4), and there has been no determination by a court on whether the offender shall  
20 be required to enroll in satellite-based monitoring, the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile  
21 Justice shall make an initial determination on whether the offender falls into one of the categories  
22 described in G.S. 14-208.40(a).

23 (b) If the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice determines that the offender  
24 falls into one of the categories described in G.S. 14-208.40(a), the district attorney, representing  
25 the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice, shall schedule a hearing in superior court  
26 for the county in which the offender resides. The Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile  
27 Justice shall notify the offender of the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice's  
28 determination and the date of the scheduled hearing by certified mail sent to the address provided  
29 by the offender pursuant to G.S. 14-208.7. The hearing shall be scheduled no sooner than 15 days  
30 from the date the notification is mailed. Receipt of notification shall be presumed to be the date  
31 indicated by the certified mail receipt. Upon the court's determination that the offender is indigent  
32 and entitled to counsel, the court shall assign counsel to represent the offender at the hearing  
33 pursuant to rules adopted by the Office of Indigent Defense Services.

34 (c) At the hearing, the court shall determine if the offender falls into one of the categories  
35 described in G.S. 14-208.40(a). The court shall hold the hearing and make findings of fact  
36 pursuant to G.S. 14-208.40A.

37 If the court finds that (i) the offender has been classified as a sexually violent predator  
38 pursuant to G.S. 14-208.20, (ii) the offender is a ~~recidivist, reoffender~~, (iii) the conviction offense  
39 was an aggravated offense, or (iv) the conviction offense was a violation of G.S. 14-27.23 or  
40 G.S. 14-27.28, the court shall order that the offender to enroll in satellite-based monitoring for  
41 life. Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice do a risk assessment of the offender. The  
42 Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice shall have a minimum of 30 days, but not more  
43 than 60 days, to complete the risk assessment of the offender and report the results to the court.

44 (c1) Upon receipt of a risk assessment from the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile  
45 Justice pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the court shall determine whether, based on the  
46 Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice's risk assessment, the offender requires the  
47 highest possible level of supervision and monitoring. If the court determines that the offender  
48 does require the highest possible level of supervision and monitoring, the court shall order the  
49 offender to enroll in a satellite-based monitoring program for a period of 10 years after the  
50 termination of the offender's active punishment, or the completion of any period of probation,  
51 whichever occurs later.

1 If the court finds that the offender committed an offense that involved the physical, mental,  
2 or sexual abuse of a minor, that the offense is not an aggravated offense or a violation of  
3 G.S. 14-27.23 or G.S. 14-27.28, and the offender is not a ~~recidivist, reoffender,~~ the court shall  
4 order that the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice do a risk assessment of the  
5 offender. The Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice shall have a minimum of 30  
6 days, but not more than 60 days, to complete the risk assessment of the offender and report the  
7 results to the court. The Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice may use a risk  
8 assessment of the offender done within six months of the date of the hearing.

9 Upon receipt of a risk assessment from the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice,  
10 the court shall determine whether, based on the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile  
11 Justice's risk assessment, the offender requires the highest possible level of supervision and  
12 monitoring. If the court determines that the offender does require the highest possible level of  
13 supervision and monitoring, the court shall order the offender to enroll in a satellite-based  
14 monitoring program for a period of time to be specified by the ~~court~~ court, not to exceed 10 years  
15 after the termination of the offender's active punishment, or the completion of any period of  
16 probation, whichever occurs later."

17 **SECTION 20.(f)** G.S. 14-208.41 reads as rewritten:

18 "**§ 14-208.41. Enrollment in satellite-based monitoring programs mandatory; length of**  
19 **enrollment.**

20 (a) Any person described by G.S. 14-208.40(a)(1) shall enroll in a satellite-based  
21 monitoring program with the Section of Community Corrections of the Division of Adult  
22 Correction and Juvenile Justice office in the county where the person resides. The person shall  
23 remain enrolled in the satellite-based monitoring program for the registration period imposed  
24 ~~under G.S. 14-208.23 which is the person's life, for a period required by G.S. 14-208.40A or~~  
25 G.S. 14-208.40B unless the requirement to enroll in the satellite-based monitoring program is  
26 terminated or modified pursuant to G.S. 14-208.43.

27 (b) Any person described by G.S. 14-208.40(a)(2) who is ordered by the court pursuant  
28 to G.S. 14-208.40A or G.S. 14-208.40B to enroll in a satellite-based monitoring program shall  
29 do so with the Section of Community Corrections of the Division of Adult Correction and  
30 Juvenile Justice office in the county where the person resides. The person shall remain enrolled  
31 in the satellite-based monitoring program for the period of time ordered by the court.

32 (c) Any person described by G.S. 14-208.40(a)(3), upon completion of active  
33 punishment, shall enroll in a satellite-based monitoring program with the Section of Community  
34 Corrections of the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice office in the county where  
35 the person resides. The person shall enroll in the satellite-based monitoring program for the entire  
36 period of post-release supervision and shall remain enrolled in the satellite-based monitoring  
37 program for ~~the person's life, the period required by G.S. 14-208.40A or G.S. 14-208.40B unless~~  
38 the requirement to enroll in the satellite-based monitoring program is terminated or modified  
39 pursuant to G.S. 14-208.43."

40 **SECTION 20.(g)** G.S. 14-208.42 reads as rewritten:

41 "**§ 14-208.42. Offenders required to submit to satellite-based monitoring required to**  
42 **cooperate with Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice upon**  
43 **completion of sentence.**

44 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, when an offender is required to enroll in  
45 satellite-based monitoring pursuant to G.S. 14-208.40A or G.S. 14-208.40B, upon completion of  
46 the offender's sentence and any term of parole, post-release supervision, intermediate  
47 punishment, or supervised probation that follows the sentence, the offender shall continue to be  
48 enrolled in the satellite-based monitoring program for the period required by G.S. 14-208.40A or  
49 G.S. 14-208.40B unless the requirement that the person enroll in a satellite-based monitoring  
50 program is terminated or modified pursuant to G.S. 14-208.43.

1 The Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice shall have the authority to have contact  
2 with the offender at the offender's residence or to require the offender to appear at a specific  
3 location as needed for the purpose of enrollment, to receive monitoring equipment, to have  
4 equipment examined or maintained, and for any other purpose necessary to complete the  
5 requirements of the satellite-based monitoring program. The offender shall cooperate with the  
6 Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice and the requirements of the satellite-based  
7 monitoring program until the offender's requirement to enroll is terminated and the offender has  
8 returned all monitoring equipment to the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice."

9 **SECTION 20.(h)** G.S. 14-208.43 reads as rewritten:

10 **"§ 14-208.43. Request–Petition for termination or modification of the satellite-based**  
11 **monitoring requirement.**

12 (a) An offender described by G.S. 14-208.40(a)(1) or G.S. 14-208.40(a)(3) who is  
13 required to submit to satellite-based monitoring ~~for the offender's life~~ may file a ~~request~~ petition  
14 for termination or modification of the monitoring requirement with the ~~Post-Release Supervision~~  
15 and ~~Parole Commission~~, superior court in the county where the conviction occurred five years  
16 from the date of initial enrollment if the person has not committed a subsequent offense requiring  
17 enrollment in the satellite-based monitoring program under this Article or the laws of any other  
18 jurisdiction. The request to terminate the satellite-based monitoring requirement and to terminate  
19 the accompanying requirement of unsupervised probation may not be submitted until at least one  
20 year after the offender: (i) has served his or her sentence for the offense for which the  
21 satellite-based monitoring requirement was imposed, and (ii) has also completed any period of  
22 probation, parole, or post-release supervision imposed as part of the sentence.

23 (b) ~~Upon receipt of the request for termination, the Commission shall review~~  
24 ~~documentation contained in the offender's file and the statewide registry to determine whether~~  
25 ~~the person has complied with the provisions of this Article. In addition, the Commission shall~~  
26 ~~conduct fingerprint-based state and federal criminal history record checks to determine whether~~  
27 ~~the person has been convicted of any additional reportable convictions.~~

28 (c) ~~If it is determined that the person has not received any additional reportable~~  
29 ~~convictions during the period of satellite-based monitoring and the person has substantially~~  
30 ~~complied with the provisions of this Article, the Commission may terminate the monitoring~~  
31 ~~requirement if the Commission finds that the person is not likely to pose a threat to the safety of~~  
32 ~~others.~~

33 (d) ~~If it is determined that the person has received any additional reportable convictions~~  
34 ~~during the period of satellite-based monitoring or has not substantially complied with the~~  
35 ~~provisions of this Article, the Commission shall not order the termination of the monitoring~~  
36 ~~requirement.~~

37 (d1) ~~Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, if the Commission is notified by the~~  
38 ~~Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice of the Department of Public Safety that the~~  
39 ~~offender has been released, pursuant to G.S. 14-208.12A, from the requirement to register under~~  
40 ~~Part 2 of Article 27A of this Chapter, upon request of the offender, the Commission shall order~~  
41 ~~the termination of the monitoring requirement.~~

42 (e) ~~The Commission shall not consider any request to terminate a monitoring requirement~~  
43 ~~except as provided by this section.~~ The district attorney in the district in which the petition is filed  
44 shall be given notice of the petition at least three weeks before the hearing on the matter. The  
45 petitioner may present evidence in support of the petition, and the district attorney may present  
46 evidence in opposition to the requested relief or may otherwise demonstrate the reasons why the  
47 petition should be denied.

48 (c) The victim of the underlying offense may appear and be heard by the court in a  
49 proceeding regarding a petition for termination or modification of satellite-based monitoring  
50 requirement. If the victim has elected to receive notices of such proceedings, the district  
51 attorney's office shall notify the victim of the date, time, and place of the hearing. The district

1 attorney's office may provide the required notification electronically or by telephone, unless the  
2 victim requests otherwise. The victim shall be responsible for notifying the district attorney's  
3 office of any changes in the victim's address and telephone number or other contact information.  
4 The judge in any court proceeding subject to this section shall inquire as to whether the victim is  
5 present and wishes to be heard. If the victim is present and wishes to be heard, the court shall  
6 grant the victim an opportunity to be reasonably heard. The right to be reasonably heard may be  
7 exercised, at the victim's discretion, through an oral statement, submission of a written statement,  
8 or submission of an audio or video statement.

9 (d) The petition may be granted only if the court makes all of the following findings:

10 (1) The petitioner no longer requires the highest possible level of supervision and  
11 monitoring for 10 years after the termination of the offender's active  
12 punishment, or the completion of any period of probation, whichever occurs  
13 later.

14 (2) The petitioner demonstrates to the court that he or she has not been arrested  
15 for any crime that would require registration under this Article since  
16 completing the sentence.

17 (e) The court may order any of the following:

18 (1) The petitioner to remain enrolled in the satellite-based monitoring program  
19 for 10 years after the termination of the offender's active punishment, or the  
20 completion of any period of probation, whichever occurs later.

21 (2) The petitioner to remain enrolled in the satellite-based monitoring program  
22 for a period of time to be specified by the court, not to exceed 10 years after  
23 the termination of the offender's active punishment, or the completion of any  
24 period of probation, whichever occurs later.

25 (3) The petitioner's requirement to enroll in the satellite-based monitoring  
26 program be terminated.

27 (4) The defendant to submit to a passive continuous satellite-based program that  
28 works within the technological or geographical limitations for a set period of  
29 time not to exceed 10 years after the termination of the offender's active  
30 punishment, or the completion of any period of probation, whichever occurs  
31 later.

32 (f) If the court denies the petition, the person may again petition the court for relief in  
33 accordance with this section two years from the date of the denial of the original petition to  
34 terminate the satellite-based monitoring requirement. If the court grants the petition, the clerk of  
35 court shall forward a certified copy of the order to the Post Release Supervision and Parole  
36 Commission. The Commission-court has no authority to consider or terminate a monitoring  
37 requirement for an offender described in G.S. 14-208.40(a)(2)."

38 **SECTION 20.(i)** The Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice shall provide  
39 each elected District Attorney a list of the individuals that reside in a county in that District  
40 Attorney's district that is subject to State v. Grady, 831 S.E. 2d 542 (NC 2019), decided August  
41 16, 2019, namely all individuals in the same category as the defendant, Mr. Grady: individuals  
42 subject to mandatory lifetime satellite-based monitoring based solely on their status as a  
43 statutorily defined "recidivist" who have completed their prison sentences and are no longer  
44 supervised by the State through probation, parole, or post-release supervision. An elected District  
45 Attorney must decide to handle each case, or have the Attorney General handle the case. If  
46 requested by an elected District Attorney, the Attorney General shall make a preliminary  
47 determination whether the recidivist subject to State v. Grady, may meet any requirement to  
48 enroll in a satellite-based monitoring program other than being a recidivist, and represent the  
49 State in any proceedings created by this section. Each District Attorney or Attorney General shall  
50 review the determination for every one of the class members. If the District Attorney or Attorney  
51 General makes a preliminary determination that the individual may meet any requirement to

1 enroll in a satellite-based monitoring program other than being a recidivist, they shall notify the  
2 person and the sheriff in the county where the individual resides. The District Attorney or  
3 Attorney General may petition the court in that county for a hearing to have a judge determine if  
4 an individual subject to State v. Grady, 831 S.E. 2d 542 (NC 2019), meets the criteria for  
5 satellite-based monitoring consistent with G.S. 14-208.40A, as amended by this act.

6 **SECTION 20.(j)** Subsection (i) of this section becomes effective August 1, 2021,  
7 and applies to any individual required to enroll in the satellite-based monitoring program based  
8 solely on being a "recidivist," on or after August 16, 2019. The remainder of this section becomes  
9 effective December 1, 2021, and applies to satellite-based monitoring determinations on or after  
10 that date.

## 11 **PART XXI. PROTECTIONS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**

12 **SECTION 21.(a)** G.S. 14-223 reads as rewritten:

13 **"§ 14-223. Resisting officers.**

14 **(a)** If any person shall willfully and unlawfully resist, delay or obstruct a public officer  
15 in discharging or attempting to discharge ~~a duty of his office, he shall be an official duty, the~~  
16 person is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

17 **(b)** If any person shall willfully and unlawfully resist, delay or obstruct a public officer  
18 in discharging or attempting to discharge an official duty, and the resistance, delay or obstruction  
19 is the proximate cause of a public officer's serious injury, the person is guilty of a Class I felony.

20 **(c)** If any person shall willfully and unlawfully resist, delay or obstruct a public officer  
21 in discharging or attempting to discharge an official duty, and the resistance, delay or obstruction  
22 is the proximate cause of a public officer's serious bodily injury, the person is guilty of a Class F  
23 felony.

24 **(d)** "Serious bodily injury" is defined as bodily injury that creates a substantial risk of  
25 death, or that causes serious permanent disfigurement, coma, a permanent or protracted condition  
26 that causes extreme pain, or permanent or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any  
27 bodily member or organ, or that results in prolonged hospitalization."

28 **SECTION 21.(b)** In order to raise public awareness about resisting, delaying, and  
29 obstructing law enforcement officers and encourage North Carolina residents to interact with law  
30 enforcement officers safely, the Department of Public Safety shall create a targeted social media  
31 campaign and television commercials that address the concerns of not resisting arrest and raising  
32 public awareness about resisting, delaying, and obstructing law enforcement officers. DPS shall  
33 also make available on its internet website a public service announcement containing legally  
34 accurate information regarding the public's responsibilities during traffic stops and other  
35 interactions with law enforcement.

36 **SECTION 21.(c)** The Department of Public Safety shall provide to the Department  
37 of Motor Vehicles an internet link to the public service announcement authorized by subsection  
38 (b) of this section, which the Department of Motor Vehicles shall make available on its internet  
39 website. In addition, the Department of Motor Vehicles shall broadcast the public service  
40 announcement authorized by subsection (b) of this section on monitors at drivers license office  
41 locations across the State.

42 **SECTION 21.(d)** Subsections (a) and (b) of this section become effective December  
43 1, 2021, and apply to offenses committed on or after that date. This remainder of this section is  
44 effective when it becomes law.

## 45 **PART XXII. AMEND THE LAW TO PROVIDE IMMEDIATE DISCLOSURE OF**

### 46 **BODY-WORN CAMERA RECORDINGS RELATED TO DEATH OR SERIOUS**

### 47 **BODILY INJURY**

48 **SECTION 22.(a)** G.S. 132-1.4A reads as rewritten:

49 **"§ 132-1.4A. Law enforcement agency recordings.**

1 (a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

2 (1) Body-worn camera. – An operational video or digital camera or other  
3 electronic device, including a microphone or other mechanism for allowing  
4 audio capture, affixed to the uniform or person of law enforcement agency  
5 personnel and positioned in a way that allows the camera or device to capture  
6 interactions the law enforcement agency personnel has with others.

7 (2) Custodial law enforcement agency. – The law enforcement agency that owns  
8 or leases or whose personnel operates the equipment that created the recording  
9 at the time the recording was made.

10 (3) Dashboard camera. – A device or system installed or used in a law  
11 enforcement agency vehicle that electronically records images or audio  
12 depicting interaction with others by law enforcement agency personnel. This  
13 term does not include body-worn cameras.

14 (4) Disclose or disclosure. – To make a recording available for viewing or  
15 listening to by the person requesting disclosure, at a time and location chosen  
16 by the custodial law enforcement agency. This term does not include the  
17 release of a recording.

18 (4a) Immediate family member. – A spouse, parent, child, sibling, or  
19 court-appointed guardian.

20 (5) Personal representative. – A parent, court-appointed guardian, spouse, or  
21 ~~attorney~~-attorney, licensed in North Carolina, of a person whose image or  
22 voice is in the recording. If a person whose image or voice is in the recording  
23 is deceased, the term also means the personal representative of the estate of  
24 the deceased person; the deceased person's surviving spouse, parent, or adult  
25 child; the deceased person's ~~attorney~~-attorney, licensed in North Carolina; or  
26 the parent or guardian of a surviving minor child of the deceased.

27 (6) Recording. – A visual, audio, or visual and audio recording captured by a  
28 body-worn camera, a dashboard camera, or any other video or audio recording  
29 device operated by or on behalf of a law enforcement agency or law  
30 enforcement agency personnel when carrying out law enforcement  
31 responsibilities. This term does not include any video or audio recordings of  
32 interviews regarding agency internal investigations or interviews or  
33 interrogations of suspects or witnesses.

34 (7) Release. – To provide a copy of a recording.

35 (8) Serious bodily injury. – A bodily injury that creates a substantial risk of death,  
36 or that causes serious permanent disfigurement, coma, a permanent or  
37 protracted condition that causes extreme pain, or permanent or protracted loss  
38 or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ, or that results  
39 in prolonged hospitalization.

40 (b) Public Record and Personnel Record Classification. – Recordings are not public  
41 records as defined by G.S. 132-1. Recordings are not personnel records as defined in Part 7 of  
42 Chapter 126 of the General Statutes, G.S. 160A-168, or G.S. 153A-98.

43 (b1) Immediate Disclosure. – If requested, any portion of a recording in the custody of a  
44 law enforcement agency which depicts a death or serious bodily injury shall be disclosed  
45 unredacted to a personal representative of the deceased, the injured individual, or a personal  
46 representative on behalf of the injured individual, within five business days unless one of the  
47 following occurs:

48 (1) The requestor requests to receive disclosure more than five business days after  
49 submitting the request.

50 (2) The law enforcement agency petitions the court as provided in subsection (b3)  
51 of this section.

1        (b2) In order to receive disclosure pursuant to this subsection, a person must sign a sworn  
2 affidavit of confidentiality attesting, under penalty of perjury, that anything depicted on the  
3 recording shall remain confidential unless otherwise allowed by law. The affidavit, provided by  
4 the agency, shall include the criminal penalties provided in subsection (b4) of this section. If a  
5 request pursuant to this subsection is denied, a person may proceed to petition the court as  
6 provided in subsection (e) of this section. Any disclosure will be done by the agency in a private  
7 setting. A person who receives disclosure pursuant to this subsection shall not record or copy the  
8 recording. Except as provided in subsection (b3) of this section, the portion of the recording  
9 relevant to the death or serious bodily injury shall not be edited or redacted.

10        (b3) Immediate Disclosure Review. – A law enforcement agency may make a motion in  
11 the superior court in any county where any portion of the recording was made for permission to  
12 redact the recording requested pursuant to subsection (b1) of this section. The court may conduct  
13 an in-camera review of the recording. In determining whether or not the recording may be  
14 redacted for the purposes of immediate disclosure, the court shall consider the following factors:

- 15            (1) If the person requesting disclosure of the recording is a person authorized to  
16 receive disclosure pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.
- 17            (2) If the recording contains information that is otherwise confidential or exempt  
18 from disclosure or release under State or federal law.
- 19            (3) If disclosure would reveal information regarding a person that is of a highly  
20 sensitive and personal nature.
- 21            (4) If disclosure may harm the reputation or jeopardize the safety of a person.
- 22            (5) If disclosure would create a serious threat to the fair, impartial, and orderly  
23 administration of justice.
- 24            (6) If confidentiality is necessary to protect either an active or inactive internal or  
25 criminal investigation or potential internal or criminal investigation.

26        In any proceeding pursuant to this subsection, the following persons shall be notified and  
27 those persons, or their designated representative, shall be given an opportunity to be heard at any  
28 proceeding: (i) the head of the custodial law enforcement agency, (ii) any law enforcement  
29 agency personnel whose image or voice is in the recording and the head of that person's  
30 employing law enforcement agency, (iii) the District Attorney, and (iv) the party requesting the  
31 disclosure. The court may order any conditions or restrictions on the disclosure that the court  
32 deems appropriate.

33        Actions brought pursuant to this subsection shall be scheduled for hearing as soon as  
34 practicable, and subsequent proceedings in such actions shall be accorded priority by the trial  
35 and appellate courts.

36        (b4) Any person who willfully violates subsection (b2) of this section by recording,  
37 copying, or attempting to record or copy a recording disclosed pursuant to subsection (b1) of this  
38 section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Any person who knowingly disseminates a  
39 recording or a copy of a recording disclosed pursuant to subsection (b1) of this section is guilty  
40 of a Class I felony.

41        (c) Disclosure; General. – Recordings in the custody of a law enforcement agency shall  
42 be disclosed only as provided by this section. A person requesting disclosure of a recording must  
43 make a written request to the head of the custodial law enforcement agency that states the date  
44 and approximate time of the activity captured in the recording or otherwise identifies the activity  
45 with reasonable particularity sufficient to identify the recording to which the request refers.

46        The head of the custodial law enforcement agency may only disclose a recording to the  
47 following:

- 48            (1) A person whose image or voice is in the recording.
- 49            (2) A personal representative of an adult person whose image or voice is in the  
50 recording, if the adult person has consented to the disclosure.



- 1 (3) A personal representative of a minor or of an adult person under lawful  
2 guardianship whose image or voice is in the recording.  
3 (4) A personal representative of a deceased person whose image or voice is in the  
4 recording.  
5 (5) A personal representative of an adult person who is incapacitated and unable  
6 to provide consent to disclosure.

7 When disclosing the recording, the law enforcement agency shall disclose only those portions of  
8 the recording that are relevant to the person's request. A person who receives disclosure pursuant  
9 to this subsection shall not record or copy the recording.

10 (d) Disclosure; Factors for Consideration. – Upon receipt of the written request for  
11 disclosure, as promptly as possible, the custodial law enforcement agency must either disclose  
12 the portion of the recording relevant to the person's request or notify the requestor of the custodial  
13 law enforcement agency's decision not to disclose the recording to the requestor.

14 The custodial law enforcement agency may consider any of the following factors in  
15 determining if a recording is disclosed:

- 16 (1) If the person requesting disclosure of the recording is a person authorized to  
17 receive disclosure pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.  
18 (2) If the recording contains information that is otherwise confidential or exempt  
19 from disclosure or release under State or federal law.  
20 (3) If disclosure would reveal information regarding a person that is of a highly  
21 sensitive personal nature.  
22 (4) If disclosure may harm the reputation or jeopardize the safety of a person.  
23 (5) If disclosure would create a serious threat to the fair, impartial, and orderly  
24 administration of justice.  
25 (6) If confidentiality is necessary to protect either an active or inactive internal or  
26 criminal investigation or potential internal or criminal investigation.

27 (e) Appeal of Disclosure Denial. – If a law enforcement agency denies disclosure  
28 pursuant to ~~subsection~~ subsections (b1) or (d) of this section, or has failed to provide disclosure  
29 more than three business days after the request for disclosure, the person seeking disclosure may  
30 apply to the superior court in any county where any portion of the recording was made for a  
31 review of the denial of disclosure. The court may conduct an in-camera review of the recording.  
32 The court may order the disclosure of the recording only if the court finds that the law  
33 enforcement agency abused its discretion in denying the request for disclosure. The court may  
34 only order disclosure of those portions of the recording that are relevant to the person's request.  
35 A person who receives disclosure pursuant to this subsection shall not record or copy the  
36 recording. An order issued pursuant to this subsection may not order the release of the recording.

37 In any proceeding pursuant to this subsection, the following persons shall be notified and  
38 those persons, or their designated representative, shall be given an opportunity to be heard at any  
39 proceeding: (i) the head of the custodial law enforcement agency, (ii) any law enforcement  
40 agency personnel whose image or voice is in the recording and the head of that person's  
41 employing law enforcement agency, and (iii) the District Attorney. Actions brought pursuant to  
42 this subsection shall be set down for hearing as soon as practicable, and subsequent proceedings  
43 in such actions shall be accorded priority by the trial and appellate courts.

44 (f) Release of Recordings to Certain Persons; Expedited Process. – Notwithstanding the  
45 provisions of subsection (g) of this section, a person authorized to receive disclosure pursuant to  
46 subsection (c) of this section, or the custodial law enforcement agency, may petition the superior  
47 court in any county where any portion of the recording was made for an order releasing the  
48 recording to a person authorized to receive disclosure. There shall be no fee for filing the petition  
49 which shall be filed on a form approved by the Administrative Office of the Courts and shall  
50 state the date and approximate time of the activity captured in the recording, or otherwise identify  
51 the activity with reasonable particularity sufficient to identify the recording. If the petitioner is a

1 person authorized to receive disclosure, notice and an opportunity to be heard shall be given to  
2 the head of the custodial law enforcement agency. Petitions filed pursuant to this subsection shall  
3 be set down for hearing as soon as practicable and shall be accorded priority by the court.

4 The court shall first determine if the person to whom release of the recording is requested is  
5 a person authorized to receive disclosure pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. In making this  
6 determination, the court may conduct an in-camera review of the recording and may, in its  
7 discretion, allow the petitioner to be present to assist in identifying the image or voice in the  
8 recording that authorizes disclosure to the person to whom release is requested. If the court  
9 determines that the person is not authorized to receive disclosure pursuant to subsection (c) of  
10 this section, there shall be no right of appeal and the petitioner may file an action for release  
11 pursuant to subsection (g) of this section.

12 If the court determines that the person to whom release of the recording is requested is a  
13 person authorized to receive disclosure pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the court shall  
14 consider the standards set out in subsection (g) of this section and any other standards the court  
15 deems relevant in determining whether to order the release of all or a portion of the recording.  
16 The court may conduct an in-camera review of the recording. The court shall release only those  
17 portions of the recording that are relevant to the person's request and may place any conditions  
18 or restrictions on the release of the recording that the court, in its discretion, deems appropriate.

19 (g) Release of Recordings; General; Court Order Required. – Recordings in the custody  
20 of a law enforcement agency shall only be released pursuant to court order. Any custodial law  
21 enforcement agency or any person requesting release of a recording may file an action in the  
22 superior court in any county where any portion of the recording was made for an order releasing  
23 the recording. The request for release must state the date and approximate time of the activity  
24 captured in the recording, or otherwise identify the activity with reasonable particularity  
25 sufficient to identify the recording to which the action refers. The court may conduct an in-camera  
26 review of the recording. In determining whether to order the release of all or a portion of the  
27 recording, in addition to any other standards the court deems relevant, the court shall consider  
28 the applicability of all of the following standards:

- 29 (1) Release is necessary to advance a compelling public interest.
- 30 (2) The recording contains information that is otherwise confidential or exempt  
31 from disclosure or release under State or federal law.
- 32 (3) The person requesting release is seeking to obtain evidence to determine legal  
33 issues in a current or potential court proceeding.
- 34 (4) Release would reveal information regarding a person that is of a highly  
35 sensitive personal nature.
- 36 (5) Release may harm the reputation or jeopardize the safety of a person.
- 37 (6) Release would create a serious threat to the fair, impartial, and orderly  
38 administration of justice.
- 39 (7) Confidentiality is necessary to protect either an active or inactive internal or  
40 criminal investigation or potential internal or criminal investigation.
- 41 (8) There is good cause shown to release all portions of a recording.

42 The court shall release only those portions of the recording that are relevant to the person's  
43 request, and may place any conditions or restrictions on the release of the recording that the court,  
44 in its discretion, deems appropriate.

45 In any proceeding pursuant to this subsection, the following persons shall be notified and  
46 those persons, or their designated representative, shall be given an opportunity to be heard at any  
47 proceeding: (i) the head of the custodial law enforcement agency, (ii) any law enforcement  
48 agency personnel whose image or voice is in the recording and the head of that person's  
49 employing law enforcement agency, and (iii) the District Attorney. Actions brought pursuant to  
50 this subsection shall be set down for hearing as soon as practicable, and subsequent proceedings  
51 in such actions shall be accorded priority by the trial and appellate courts.

1 (h) Release of Recordings; Law Enforcement Purposes. – Notwithstanding the  
2 requirements of subsections (c), (f), and (g) of this section, a custodial law enforcement agency  
3 shall disclose or release a recording to a district attorney (i) for review of potential criminal  
4 charges, (ii) in order to comply with discovery requirements in a criminal prosecution, (iii) for  
5 use in criminal proceedings in district court, or (iv) for any other law enforcement purpose, and  
6 may disclose or release a recording for any of the following purposes:

7 (1) For law enforcement training purposes.

8 (2) Within the custodial law enforcement agency for any administrative, training,  
9 or law enforcement purpose.

10 (3) To another law enforcement agency for law enforcement purposes.

11 (4) For suspect identification or apprehension.

12 (5) To locate a missing or abducted person.

13 (i) Retention of Recordings. – Any recording subject to the provisions of this section  
14 shall be retained for at least the period of time required by the applicable records retention and  
15 disposition schedule developed by the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Division  
16 of Archives and Records.

17 (j) Agency Policy Required. – Each law enforcement agency that uses body-worn  
18 cameras or dashboard cameras shall adopt a policy applicable to the use of those cameras.

19 (k) No civil liability shall arise from compliance with the provisions of this section,  
20 provided that the acts or omissions are made in good faith and do not constitute gross negligence,  
21 willful or wanton misconduct, or intentional wrongdoing.

22 (l) Fee for Copies. – A law enforcement agency may charge a fee to offset the cost  
23 incurred by it to make a copy of a recording for release. The fee shall not exceed the actual cost  
24 of making the copy.

25 (m) Attorneys' Fees. – The court may not award attorneys' fees to any party in any action  
26 brought pursuant to this section."

27 **SECTION 22.(b)** This section becomes effective December 1, 2021, and applies to  
28 all recordings made on or after that date.

29  
30 **PART XXIII. SAVINGS CLAUSE, SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, AND EFFECTIVE DATE**

31 **SECTION 23.(a)** If any provision of this act or its application is held invalid, the  
32 invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this act that can be given effect  
33 without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are  
34 severable.

35 **SECTION 23.(b)** Prosecutions for offenses committed before the effective date of  
36 this act are not abated or affected by this act, and the statutes that would be applicable but for  
37 this act remain applicable to those prosecutions.

38 **SECTION 23.(c)** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes  
39 law.