

North Carolina Public Defenders Directory

Public Defenders/Court-Appointed Attorneys: If a defendant cannot afford an attorney and is accused of a crime that could result in a jail sentence or suspended sentence, the defendant is eligible for the services of a lawyer at state expense. Public Defenders are full-time, state-paid attorneys whose function is to represent indigent criminal defendants and indigent respondents in civil cases in which there is a right to counsel. Eighteen districts in the state encompassing 35 counties have Public Defender offices. If the county in which you have been criminally charged is not included in the list below, a local private attorney will be appointed to represent you. In either case, you must appear at your scheduled court appearance to request a court-appointed attorney. You will be asked to complete an Affidavit of Indigency, showing your income and expenses. If, after completing this form, the judge decides that you cannot afford an attorney and are entitled to counsel, the judge will appoint you an attorney. You have no choice in who the judge will appoint to represent you. Court-appointed attorneys are not free attorneys. If you plead guilty or are found guilty, the judge will order you to reimburse the State of North Carolina for the value of services provided by a court-appointed attorney.

Local Public Defender Offices

County	Telephone Number	County	Telephone Number
Beaufort County	252-940-4014	Hyde County	252-940-4014
Buncombe County	828-259-3423	Martin County	252-940-4014
Camden County	252-331-4650	Mecklenburg County	704-686-0900
Carteret County	252-504-4545	McDowell County	828-655-4123
Chatham County	919-545-3514	New Hanover County	910-343-5400
Chowan County	252-331-4650	Orange County	919-643-4400
Craven County	252-639-3203	Pamlico County	252-639-3203
Cumberland County	910-475-3023	Pasquotank County	252-331-4650
Currituck County	252-331-4650	Perquimans County	252-331-4650
Dare County	252-475-5223	Pitt County	252-695-7300
Durham County	919-808-3023	Polk County	828-885-3014
Forsyth County	336-779-6325	Robeson County	910-272-5923
Gaston County	704-852-3220	Rutherford County	828-288-6123
Gates County	252-331-4650	Scotland County	910-266-4550
Guilford County -- Greensboro	336-412-7777	Transylvania County	828-885-3014
Guilford County -- High Point	336-822-6723	Tyrell County	252-940-4014
Henderson County	828-694-4270	Washington County	252-940-4014
Hoke County	910-878-4150	Wake County	919-792-5400

Statewide Public Defender Offices

Office	Location	Telephone	Fax
Office of the Appellate Defender	Durham, NC	919-354-7210	919-354-7211
Office of the Capital Defender	Durham, NC	919-354-7220	919-354-7221
Regional Capital Defender Offices:			
Buncombe County	Asheville, NC	828-259-3434	
Forsyth County	Winston-Salem, NC	336-779-6326	336-779-6344
Nash County	Rocky Mount, NC	252-210-9520	
New Hanover County	Wilmington, NC	910-343-6473	910-343-6230
Robeson County	Lumberton, NC	910-272-6060	910-272-6061
Office of the Juvenile Defender	Raleigh, NC	919-890-1650	919-890-1922
Office of Parent Representation	Durham, NC	919-354-7230	919-354-7231

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