



# North Carolina Department of Public Safety

## Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Roy Cooper, Governor  
Eddie M. Buffaloe, Secretary

William L. Lassiter, Deputy Secretary

### MEMORANDUM

**To:** Chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety  
Chairs of the Senate Appropriation Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety  
Chairs of the House Appropriation Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety Fiscal  
Research Division

**From:** Eddie M. Buffaloe, Secretary   
William L. Lassiter, Deputy Secretary 

**Subject:** Assaults on Staff in State Juvenile Detention Centers

**Date:** March 15, 2023

*Pursuant to § 14-258.7, the Department of Public Safety shall report by March 15 of each year to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety, the Chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety, and the Fiscal Research Division of the Legislative Services Commission on the number of incidents of any violation of G.S. 14-34.5(b), 14-34.7(b), or 14-34.7(c)(2) involving an employee or contractor of a detention facility operated by the State, and the nature of the resolution of every incident of any violation of G.S. 14-34.5(b), 14-34.7(b), or 14-34.7(c)(2) involving an employee or contractor of a detention facility operated by the State.*

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# North Carolina Department of Public Safety

## Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

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**1) The number of incidents of any violation of this Article, G.S. 14-34.5(b), 14-34.7(b), or 14-34.7(c)(2) involving an employee or contractor of a detention facility operated by the State.**

The following table reflects violations involving an employee or contractor of a juvenile detention center or youth development center resulting in injury to staff. Youth Development Centers offer long term, residential commitment services whereas juvenile detention centers predominantly house youth pre-trial in secure custody.

**CY 2022**

	<b>Violations of G.S. 14-34.5 (b)</b> <i>Assault with a Firearm on a person employed at a State detention facility</i>	<b>Violations of G.S. 14-34.7 (b)</b> <i>Certain assaults on a person employed at a State detention facility (Class F)</i>	<b>Violations of G.S. 14-34.7 (c) (2)</b> <i>Certain assaults on a person employed at a State detention facility (Class I)</i>
Alexander Juvenile Detention Center	0	0	1
Cabarrus Juvenile Detention Center	0	0	4
Cumberland Juvenile Detention Center	0	0	2
Dillon Juvenile Detention Center	0	0	3
Dobbs/Lenoir/Green Juvenile Detention Center	0	0	0
New Hanover Juvenile Detention Center	0	0	3
Pitt Juvenile Detention Center	0	0	4
Wake Juvenile Detention Center	0	2	2
Cabarrus Youth Development Center	0	0	2
Chatham Youth Development Center	0	0	1

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Edgecombe Youth Development Center	0	0	2
Lenoir Youth Development Center	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>24</b>

**2) The nature of the resolution of every incident of any violation of this Article, G.S. 14-34.5(b), 14-34.7(b), or 14-34.7(c)(2) involving an employee or contractor of a detention facility operated by the State.**

**CY 2023:**

Twenty-six (26) acts that appear to meet the elements of G.S. 14-34.7(b) and (c)(2), Certain Assaults on a Person Employed at a Detention Facility, occurred in CY 2023. The following delinquent petitions or criminal charges were filed for individual juveniles housed in a juvenile detention center or youth development center:

- One charge for G.S. 14-33(a), Simple Assault, which resulted in conviction and an active sentence of 25 days.
- One charge for G.S. 14-33(c)(1), Assault Inflicting Serious Injury, which remains pending.
- One petition for G.S. 14-33(c)(4), Assault on a Government Official, which was curtailed after the victim declined to pursue charges.
- One petition for G.S. 14-33(c)(4), Assault on a Government Official, which was curtailed after the victim declined to pursue charges.
- One petition for G.S. 14-33(c)(4), Assault on a Government Official, which was dismissed.
- One petition for G.S. 14-33(c)(4), Assault on a Government Official, which remains pending; and one petition for G.S. 14-258.4, Malicious Conduct by a Prisoner, which was dismissed.
- One charge for G.S. 14-33(c)(4), Assault on a Government Official, which remains an unserved warrant.
- One petition for G.S. 14-34.7(c)(2), Certain Assaults on a Person Employed at a Detention Facility, which remains pending.
- One petition for G.S. 14-34.7(b), Certain Assaults on a Person Employed at a Detention Facility, for which the juvenile was adjudicated delinquent and sentenced to 9 months supervised probation.
- One charge for G.S. 14-33(c)(4), Assault on a Government Official, which was dismissed.
- One charge for G.S. 14-34.7(c)(2), Certain Assaults on a Person Employed at a Detention Facility and 1 charge for 14-34.2(b), Assault by Strangulation. Both charges were dismissed pursuant to a guilty plea to one count of G.S. 14-33(a), Simple Assault and an active sentence of 30 days.

Please note that more than one juvenile may have been involved in any individual incident or a juvenile may have received more than one charge or petition per incident and therefore the number of formal charges or petitions listed above may differ from the total counts provided in (1).

The remaining potential violations of G.S. 14-34.7(b) and G.S. 14-34.7(c)(2) were each resolved consistent with internal policy.