



# 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, 2024

*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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## 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 2024**

	<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	3
Cabarrus Juvenile Detention Center	0	0	0
Cumberland Juvenile Detention Center	0	0	0
Dillon Juvenile Detention Center	0	0	3
Dobbs/Lenoir/Green Juvenile Detention Center	0	0	0
New Hanover Juvenile Detention Center	0	1	1
Pitt Juvenile Detention Center	0	0	1
Wake Juvenile Detention Center	0	0	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>1</b>	<b>15</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:**

Sixteen (16) acts that appear to meet the elements of G.S. 14-34.7(b) and G.S. 14-34.7(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(c)(4), Assault on a Government Official, which resulted in a conviction and active sentence of 30 days.
- One petition for G.S. 14-258.4(a), Malicious Conduct by a Prisoner, and one petition for 14-33(c)(4), Assault on a Government Official, both of which were transferred to Superior Court and remain pending.
- One charge for 14-33(a), Simple Assault, which resulted in a conviction and active sentence of 30 days.
- One petition for 14-33(c)(4), Assault on a Government Official, which was dismissed.
- One petition for 14-258.4, Malicious Conduct by a Prisoner, which is pending adjudication.
- One charge for 14-33(c)(4), Assault on a Government Official, which was pled to a lesser offense of 14-33(a) Simple Assault with an active sentence of 30 days.
- One petition for 14-34.7(c)(2), Certain Assaults on a Person Employed at a Detention Facility, which resulted in an adjudication of delinquent but is pending disposition.
- One charge of 14-34.7(b), Simple Assault, which remains pending.

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.