

NC Department of Public Safety

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

Josh Stein, Governor

Eddie M. Buffaloe Jr., 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, 2025

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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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

	Violations of G.S. 14-34.5 (b)	Violations of G.S. 14-34.7 (b)	Violations of G.S. 14-34.7 (c) (2)
	Assault with a Firearm on a person employed at a State detention facility	Certain assaults on a person employed at a State detention facility (Class F)	Certain assaults on a person employed at a State detention facility (Class I)
Alexander Juvenile	0	0	0
Detention Center			
Cabarrus Juvenile	0	0	0
Detention Center			
Cumberland Juvenile	0	0	1
Detention Center			
Dillon Juvenile Detention	0	0	1
Center			
Dobbs/Lenoir/Green Juvenile	0	0	0
Detention Center			
New Hanover Juvenile	0	1	0
Detention Center			
Pitt Juvenile Detention	0	0	2
Center			
Wake Juvenile Detention	0	0	0
Center			
Cabarrus Youth	0	0	1
Development Center			
Chatham Youth	0	0	2
Development Center			
Perquimans Juvenile	0	0	0
Detention Center			
Richmond Jenkins Juvenile	0	0	0
Detention Center			
Rockingham Youth	0	0	0
Development Center			
Edgecombe Youth	0	0	0
Development Center			
Lenoir Youth	0	0	0
Development Center			
Total	0	1	7

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 2024:

Eight (8) 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 2024. The following delinquent petitions or criminal charges were filed for individual juveniles housed in a juvenile detention center or youth development center:

- One petition for 14-33(c)(4), Assault on Government Official, which resulted in adjudication as delinquent and a sentence of 12 months' supervision by a Juvenile Court Counselor.
- Two petitions for 14-37.7(c)(2), one of which was dismissed by the prosecutor, and one of which resulted in an adjudication as delinquent and a sentence of 12 months' supervision by a Juvenile Court Counselor.
- One count of 14-34.7(b), Assault State or Local Detention Facility Employee inflicting Serious Bodily Injury, which resulted in conviction and an active sentence of 20 36 months.

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.