



CHAPTER 130A
ARTICLE 16 - POSTMORTEM INVESTIGATION AND DISPOSITION

N.C.G.S. § 130A-390.

Exhumations.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	c. 463, s. 3 — second act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 03:11 UTC	d15b7ee5f7faa083eb243116 - b6ff3735884e5d7b7e02d777 - 6a9e7688e3f3f4a2

- § 130A-390(a)

In any case of death described in G.S. 130A-383 or 130A-384 where the body is buried without investigation by a medical examiner as to the cause and manner of death or where sufficient cause develops for further investigation after a body is buried as determined by a county medical examiner or the Chief Medical Examiner, the Chief Medical Examiner shall authorize an investigation and send a report of the investigation with recommendations to the appropriate district attorney. The district attorney may forward the report to the superior court judge and petition for disinterment. The judge may order that the body be exhumed and that an autopsy be performed by the Chief Medical Examiner. A report of the autopsy and other pathological studies shall be delivered to the judge. The cost of the exhumation, autopsy, transportation and disposition of the body shall be paid by the State. However, if the deceased is a resident of the county in which death or fatal injury occurred, that county shall pay the cost.
- § 130A-390(b)

Any person may petition a judge of the superior court for an order of exhumation. Upon showing of sufficient cause, the judge may order the body exhumed. The cost incurred shall be assigned to the petitioner.
- § 130A-390(c)

Without applying for a judicial exhumation order, the next-of-kin of a deceased person may have the remains exhumed, examined by the Chief Medical Examiner and redispersed. The cost shall be paid by the next-of-kin.

APPARATUS I
2 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.

1983		1987	1991
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT			
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1983	c. 891, s. 2	ENACTED
02	1991	c. 463, s. 3	AMENDED

APPARATUS II
1 AUTHORITY

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 130A-383	(a)	"any case of death described in"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 130A-390 (1991).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 130A-390(a) (1991).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

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HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE
(1983, c. 891, s. 2; 1991, c. 463, s. 3.)

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