



CHAPTER 131E

ARTICLE 6 - HEALTH CARE FACILITY LICENSURE ACT

N.C.G.S. § 131E-144.6.

Enforcement and investigation.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	No amendment history on record	21 September 2026, 05:53 UTC	63d2886a9bb8910a72795db2 - 98da46bff0eec3e84a38a73e - 1a5c2eea8f289d92

§ 131E-144.6(a) The Department of Health and Human Services shall be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this Part. The Department shall investigate complaints made to it and reply within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed 60 days.

§ 131E-144.6(a1) When the Department of Health and Human Services receives a complaint alleging a violation of the provisions of this Part pertaining to client care or client safety, the Department shall initiate an investigation as follows:

- (1) Immediately upon receipt of the complaint if the complaint alleges a life-threatening situation.
- (2) Within 24 hours if the complaint alleges abuse of a client as defined by G.S. 131D-20(1).
- (3) Within 48 hours if the complaint alleges neglect of a client as defined by G.S. 131D-20(8).
- (4) Within two weeks in all other situations.

The investigation shall be completed within 30 days. The requirements of this section are in addition to and not in lieu of any investigatory and reporting requirements for health care personnel pursuant to Article 15 of this Chapter, or for adult protective services pursuant to Article 6 of Chapter 108A of the General Statutes.

§ 131E-144.6(b) A home care agency shall investigate, within 72 hours, complaints made to the agency by a home care client or the client's family and must document both the existence of the complaint and the resolution of the complaint. (2005-276, s. 10.40A(n).)

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS II
2 AUTHORITIES

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. 131D-20(1)	(a1)(2)	"of a client as defined by"
G.S. 131D-20(8)	(a1)(3)	"of a client as defined by"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 131E-144.6 (2026).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 131E-144.6(a) (2026).

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

This document reproduces the text of one section of the General Statutes of North Carolina from a source file whose SHA-256 digest is printed on every page. The digest fixes the bytes this export was made from; if the State's file changes, the digest will not match.

The text of the section is unaltered. Subsection designators have been moved from the run of text into the margin. The amendment history and the table of authorities are derived from the section by mechanical extraction — they add no characterization of the law.

This is not the official text. The official text is published by the General Assembly of North Carolina.

