



CHAPTER 14
ARTICLE 26 - OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC MORALITY AND DECENCY

N.C.G.S. § 14-196.

Using profane, indecent or threatening language to any person over telephone; annoying or harassing by repeated telephoning or making false statements over telephone.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2000-125, s. 2 — ninth act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 02:05 UTC	9339189f9b6b663d8026c478 - 9e3fdbedab7d830b0fb26828 - 658375491f010a69

§ 14-196(a)

It shall be unlawful for any person:

- (1) To use in telephonic communications any words or language of a profane, vulgar, lewd, lascivious or indecent character, nature or connotation;
- (2) To use in telephonic communications any words or language threatening to inflict bodily harm to any person or to that person's child, sibling, spouse, or dependent or physical injury to the property of any person, or for the purpose of extorting money or other things of value from any person;
- (3) To telephone another repeatedly, whether or not conversation ensues, for the purpose of abusing, annoying, threatening, terrifying, harassing or embarrassing any person at the called number;
- (4) To make a telephone call and fail to hang up or disengage the connection with the intent to disrupt the service of another;
- (5) To telephone another and to knowingly make any false statement concerning death, injury, illness, disfigurement, indecent conduct or criminal conduct of the person telephoned or of any member of his family or household with the intent to abuse, annoy, threaten, terrify, harass, or embarrass;

- (6) To knowingly permit any telephone under his control to be used for any purpose prohibited by this section.

§ 14-196(b)

Any of the above offenses may be deemed to have been committed at either the place at which the telephone call or calls were made or at the place where the telephone call or calls were received. For purposes of this section, the term "telephonic communications" shall include communications made or received by way of a telephone answering machine or recorder, telefacsimile machine, or computer modem.

§ 14-196(c)

Anyone violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
9 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.



Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1913	c. 35	ENACTED
02	1915	c. 41	AMENDED
03	C.S.	s. 4351	RECODIFIED
04	1967	c. 833, s. 1	AMENDED
05	1989	c. 305	AMENDED
06	1993	c. 539, s. 128	AMENDED
07	1994	Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c)	AMENDED
08	1999	S.L. 1999-262, s. 1	AMENDED
09	2000	S.L. 2000-125, s. 2	AMENDED

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-196 (2000).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-196(a) (2000).

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

HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1913, c. 35; 1915, c. 41; C.S., s. 4351; 1967, c. 833, s. 1; 1989, c. 305; 1993, c. 539, s. 128; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c); 1999-262, s. 1; 2000-125, s. 2.)

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