



CHAPTER 14
ARTICLE 26 - OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC MORALITY AND DECENCY

N.C.G.S. § 14-202.

Secretly peeping into room occupied by another person.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2025-70, s. 8(a) — twelfth act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 04:03 UTC	e73ad77c4f733f999055e865 - fe9a6caced70af1b4c85b1f3 - d034410f99b87c24

- § 14-202(a)

Any person who shall peep secretly into any room occupied by another person shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.
- § 14-202(a1)

Unless covered by another provision of law providing greater punishment, any person who secretly or surreptitiously peeps underneath or through the clothing being worn by another person, through the use of a mirror or other device, for the purpose of viewing the body of, or the undergarments worn by, that other person without their consent shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.
- § 14-202(b)

The following definitions apply in this section:

(1)

Photographic image. - Any photograph or photographic reproduction, still or moving, or any videotape, motion picture, or live television transmission, or any digital image of any individual.

(2)

Private area of an individual. - The naked or undergarment clad genitals, pubic area, buttocks, or female breast of that individual.

(3)

Room. - Includes, but is not limited to, a bedroom, a rest room, a bathroom, a shower, a dressing room, a dressing stall, a cubicle, or other similar area designed to provide privacy.

(4)

Under circumstances in which that individual has a reasonable expectation of privacy. - Means either of the following:

a.Circumstances in which a reasonable person would believe that he or she could disrobe in privacy, without being concerned that a photographic image of a private area of the individual was being created.

b.Circumstances in which a reasonable person would believe that a private area of the individual would not be visible to the public, regardless of whether that person is in a public or private place.

§ 14-202(c)CLASS A1
MISDEMEANOR

Unless covered by another provision of law providing greater punishment, any person who, while in possession of any device which may be used to create a photographic image and with the intent to create a photographic image, shall secretly peep into any room shall be guilty of a Class A1 misdemeanor.

§ 14-202(d)

CLASS I FELONY

Unless covered by another provision of law providing greater punishment, any person who, while secretly peeping into any room, uses any device to create a photographic image of another person in that room for the purpose of arousing or gratifying the sexual desire of any person shall be guilty of a Class I felony.

§ 14-202(e)

Repealed by Session Laws 2025-70, s. 8(a), effective December 1, 2025, and applicable to offenses committed on or after that date.

§ 14-202(e1)

CLASS I FELONY

Unless covered under some other provision of law providing greater punishment, any person who, with the intent to create a photographic image of a private area of an individual without the individual's consent, knowingly does so under circumstances in which the individual has a reasonable expectation of privacy shall be guilty of a Class I felony.

§ 14-202(f)

CLASS I FELONY

Any person who, for the purpose of arousing or gratifying the sexual desire of any person, secretly or surreptitiously uses or installs in a room any device that can be used to create a photographic image with the intent to capture the image of another without their consent shall be guilty of a Class I felony.

§ 14-202(g)

CLASS I FELONY

Any person who knowingly possesses a photographic image that the person knows, or has reason to believe, was obtained in violation of this section shall be guilty of a Class I felony.

§ 14-202(h)

CLASS H FELONY

Any person who disseminates or allows to be disseminated images that the person knows, or should have known, were obtained as a result of the violation of this section

shall be guilty of a Class H felony if the dissemination is without the consent of the person in the photographic image.

§ 14-202(i)CLASS A1 / I
MISDEMEANOR

A second or subsequent felony conviction under this section shall be punished as though convicted of an offense one class higher. A second or subsequent conviction for a Class 1 misdemeanor shall be punished as a Class A1 misdemeanor. A second or subsequent conviction for a Class A1 misdemeanor shall be punished as a Class I felony.

§ 14-202(j)

If the defendant is placed on probation as a result of violation of this section:

- (1) For a first conviction under this section, the judge may impose a requirement that the defendant obtain a psychological evaluation and comply with any treatment recommended as a result of that evaluation.
- (2) For a second or subsequent conviction under this section, the judge shall impose a requirement that the defendant obtain a psychological evaluation and comply with any treatment recommended as a result of that evaluation.

§ 14-202(k)

Any person whose image is captured or disseminated in violation of this section has a civil cause of action against any person who captured or disseminated the image or procured any other person to capture or disseminate the image and is entitled to recover from those persons actual damages, punitive damages, reasonable attorneys' fees and other litigation costs reasonably incurred.

§ 14-202(l)

When a person violates subsection (d), (e1), (f), (g), or (h) of this section, or is convicted of a second or subsequent violation of subsection (a), (a1), or (c) of this section, the sentencing court shall consider whether the person is a danger to the community and whether requiring the person to register as a sex offender pursuant to Article 27A of this Chapter would further the purposes of that Article as stated in G.S. 14-208.5. If the sentencing court rules that the person is a danger to the community and that the person shall register, then an order shall be entered requiring the person to register.

§ 14-202(m)

The provisions of subsections (a), (a1), (c), (e1), (g), (h), and (k) of this section do not apply to either of the following:

- (1) Law enforcement officers while discharging or attempting to discharge their official duties.

- (2) Personnel of the Division of Prisons of the Department of Adult Correction or of a local confinement facility for security purposes or during investigation of alleged misconduct by a person in the custody of the Division or the local confinement facility.

§ 14-202(n)

This section does not affect the legal activities of those who are licensed pursuant to Chapter 74C, Private Protective Services, or Chapter 74D, Alarm Systems, of the General Statutes, who are legally engaged in the discharge of their official duties within their respective professions, and who are not engaging in activities for an improper purpose as described in this section.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
12 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.

1919			1972			2025		
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR			DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT					
Nº	YEAR	ACT				CHARACTER		
01	1923	c. 78				ENACTED		
02	C.S.	s. 4356(a)				RECODIFIED		
03	1957	c. 338				AMENDED		
04	1993	c. 539, s. 131				AMENDED		
05	1994	Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c)				AMENDED		
06	2003	S.L. 2003-303, s. 1				AMENDED		
07	2004	S.L. 2004-109, s. 7				AMENDED		
08	2011	S.L. 2011-145, s. 19.1(h)				AMENDED		
09	2012	S.L. 2012-83, s. 1				AMENDED		
10	2017	S.L. 2017-186, s. 2(p)				AMENDED		
11	2021	S.L. 2021-180, s. 19C.9(p)				AMENDED		
12	2025	S.L. 2025-70, s. 8(a)				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. 14-208.5	(l)	"of that Article as stated in"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-202 (2025).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-202(a) (2025).

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

(1923, c. 78; C.S., s. 4356(a); 1957, c. 338; 1993, c. 539, s. 131; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c); 2003-303, s. 1; 2004-109, s. 7; 2011-145, s. 19.1(h); 2012-83, s. 1; 2017-186, s. 2(p); 2021-180, s. 19C.9(p); 2025-70, s. 8(a).)

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