



CHAPTER 14
ARTICLE 36A - RIOTS, CIVIL DISORDERS, AND EMERGENCIES

N.C.G.S. § 14-288.6.

Looting; trespass during emergency.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 2025-18, s. 4(b) — ninth act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 02:13 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 941a1b6f85dd99f8b0d69bdd - 4487cec682d989a66572b147 - fb81f46f9cdb496a
--	---	---	--

§ 14-288.6(a) Any person who enters upon the premises of another without legal justification in an emergency area during a declared state of emergency when the usual security of property is not effective due to the occurrence or aftermath of the emergency that prompted the declared state of emergency is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor of trespass during an emergency.

§ 14-288.6(b)
CLASS F / H FELONY Any person who commits the crime of trespass during emergency under subsection (a) of this section and, without legal justification, obtains or exerts control over, damages, ransacks, or destroys the property of another is guilty of the felony of looting. A violation of this subsection is punishable as follows:

- (1) If the looted property is temporary housing or is taken from temporary housing, a violation of this subsection is punishable as a Class F felony.
- (2) If the looted property is anything other than property described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, a violation of this subsection is punishable as a Class H felony.

§ 14-288.6(c) Any person whose person or property is injured by reason of a violation of this section may sue for and recover from the violator three times the actual damages sustained, as well as court costs and attorneys' fees.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I

TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT

Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1969	c. 869, s. 1	ENACTED
02	1979	c. 760, s. 5	AMENDED
03	1979	2nd Sess., c. 1316, s. 47	AMENDED
04	1981	c. 63, s. 1	AMENDED
05	1981	c. 179, s. 14	AMENDED
06	1993	c. 539, ss. 191, 1227	AMENDED
07	1994	Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c)	AMENDED
08	2023	S.L. 2023-6, s. 2	AMENDED
09	2025	S.L. 2025-18, s. 4(b)	AMENDED

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-288.6 (2025).

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-288.6(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

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.

HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1969, c. 869, s. 1; 1979, c. 760, s. 5; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1316, s. 47; 1981, c. 63, s. 1; c. 179, s. 14; 1993, c. 539, ss. 191, 1227; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c); 2023-6, s. 2; 2025-18, s. 4(b).)

SET IN SPECTRAL AND ARCHIVO
NORTH CAROLINA LAW — STATUTE EXPORT, FORMAT V1

