



CHAPTER 14
ARTICLE 59 - PUBLIC INTOXICATION

N.C.G.S. § 14-445.

Defense of alcoholism.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT c. 519, s. 1 — second act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 03:30 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 2e6ef5b619affbee15b413c - 2cce96b32ffc198257f5eb28 - 8edf18818be3d5af
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- § 14-445(a)

It is a defense to a charge of being intoxicated and disruptive in a public place that the defendant suffers from alcoholism.
- § 14-445(b)

The presiding judge at the trial of a defendant charged with being intoxicated and disruptive in public shall consider the defense of alcoholism even though the defendant does not raise the defense, and may request additional information on whether the defendant is suffering from alcoholism.
- § 14-445(c)

Whenever any person charged with committing a misdemeanor under G.S. 14-444 enters a plea to the charge, the court may, without entering a judgment, defer further proceedings for up to 15 days to determine whether the person is suffering from alcoholism.
- § 14-445(d)

If he believes it will be of value in making his determination, the district court judge may direct an alcoholism court counselor, if available, to conduct a prehearing review of the alleged alcoholic's drinking history in order to gather additional information as to whether the defendant is suffering from alcoholism.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

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.

	1977		1979		1981
	TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT				
Nº	YEAR	ACT		CHARACTER	
01	1977	2nd Sess., c. 1134, s. 1		ENACTED	
02	1981	c. 519, s. 1		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. 14-444	(c)	<i>"charged with committing a misdemeanor under"</i>

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-445 (1981).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-445(a) (1981).

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
(1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1134, s. 1; 1981, c. 519, s. 1.)

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NORTH CAROLINA LAW — STATUTE EXPORT, FORMAT V1

