



CHAPTER 14
ARTICLE 14 - BURGLARY AND OTHER HOUSEBREAKINGS

N.C.G.S. § 14-54.

Breaking or entering buildings generally.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT No amendment history on record	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 04:17 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 4e2c822c209280f95cf97354 - c296397a5aa610a93cc4ff06 - 8e787e6f235b2bf9
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§ 14-54(a)

CLASS H FELONY

Offense with Intent to Commit Felony or Larceny; Punishment. - Any person who breaks or enters any building with intent to commit any felony or larceny therein shall be punished as a Class H felon.

§ 14-54(a1)

CLASS H FELONY

Offense with Intent to Terrorize or Injure; Punishment. - Any person who breaks or enters any building with intent to terrorize or injure an occupant of the building is guilty of a Class H felony.

§ 14-54(b)

Offense Generally; Punishment. - Any person who wrongfully breaks or enters any building is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

§ 14-54(b1)

CLASS I FELONY

Offense Involving Unlawful Business Entry. - Any person who, with the intent to commit an unlawful act, enters any area of a building (i) that is commonly reserved for personnel of a commercial business where money or other property is kept or (ii) clearly marked with a sign that indicates to the public that entry is forbidden is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class I felony for a second or subsequent offense.

§ 14-54(b2)

Enhancement. - If a person possessed a firearm about his or her person during the commission of an offense under this section, in addition to any other sentence enhancement required by law, the person shall be sentenced at a class level one class higher than the principal offense for which the person was convicted. An indictment or information for the offense shall allege in that indictment or information the facts

that qualify the offense for an enhancement under this subsection. One pleading is sufficient for all offenses that are tried at a single trial.

§ 14-54(c)

Definition. - As used in this section, "building" shall be construed to include any dwelling, dwelling house, uninhabited house, building under construction, building within the curtilage of a dwelling house, and any other structure designed to house or secure within it any activity or property. (1874-5, c. 166; 1879, c. 323; Code, s. 996; Rev., s. 3333; C.S., s. 4235; 1955, c. 1015; 1969, c. 543, s. 3; 1979, c. 760, s. 5; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1316, s. 47; 1981, c. 63, s. 1; c. 179, s. 14; 1993, c. 539, s. 26; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c); 2013-95, s. 1; 2025-71, ss. 4(a), 10(d).)

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-54 (2026).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-54(a) (2026).

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