



CHAPTER 15A

ARTICLE 73 - CRIMINAL JURY TRIAL IN SUPERIOR COURT

N.C.G.S. § 15A-1221.

Order of proceedings in jury trial; reading of indictment prohibited.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2021-94, s. 2 — fourth act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 03:43 UTC	53aee63fa53a2c05b6735809 - 8796136db22159133349b57e - e8d7547f44896b12

§ 15A-1221(a)

The order of a jury trial, in general, is as follows:

- (1) Repealed by Session Laws 1995 (Regular Session 1996), c. 725, s. 10.
- (1a) Unless the defendant has filed a written request for an arraignment, the court must enter a not guilty plea on behalf of the defendant in accordance with G.S. 15A-941. If a defendant does file a written request for an arraignment, then the defendant must be arraigned and must have his or her plea recorded out of the presence of the prospective jurors in accordance with G.S. 15A-941.
- (2) The judge must inform the prospective jurors of the case in accordance with G.S. 15A-1213.
- (3) The jury must be sworn, selected and impaneled in accordance with Article 72, Selecting and Impaneling the Jury.
- (4) Each party must be given the opportunity to make a brief opening statement, but the defendant may reserve his opening statement.
- (5) The State must offer evidence.
- (6) The defendant may offer evidence and, if he has reserved his opening statement, may precede his evidence with that statement.
- (7) The State and the defendant may then offer successive rebuttals as provided in G.S. 15A-1226.

- (8) At the conclusion of the evidence, the parties may make arguments to the jury in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 15A-1230.
- (9) The judge must deliver a charge to the jury in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 15A-1231 and 15A-1232.
- (10) The jury must retire to deliberate.

§ 15A-1221(b)

At no time during the selection of the jury or during trial may any person read the indictment to the prospective jurors or to the jury.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
4 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

1999

2021

TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR

DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT

Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1977	c. 711, s. 1	ENACTED
02	1977	2nd Sess., c. 1147, s. 2	AMENDED
03	1977	1995 (Reg. Sess., 1996), c. 725, s. 10	AMENDED
04	2021	S.L. 2021-94, s. 2	AMENDED

APPARATUS II
5 AUTHORITIES

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. 15A-941	(a)(1a)	"of the defendant in accordance with"
G.S. 15A-1213	(a)(2)	"of the case in accordance with"
G.S. 15A-1226	(a)(7)	"offer successive rebuttals as provided in"
G.S. 15A-1230	(a)(8)	"in accordance with the provisions of"

G.S. 15A-1231

(a)(9)

"in accordance with the provisions of"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 15A-1221 (2021).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 15A-1221(a) (2021).

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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HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1977, c. 711, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1147, s. 2; 1995 (Reg. Sess., 1996), c. 725, s. 10; 2021-94, s. 2.)

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