



CHAPTER 15A

ARTICLE 100 - CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

N.C.G.S. § 15A-2001.

Capital offenses; plea of guilty.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2001-81, s. 2 — second act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 07:00 UTC	ff061d00cf2ade65e544c162 - 1a82950cfa03a0e485a2f52b - 43229c0bb903a44a

§ 15A-2001(a) Any defendant who has been indicted for an offense punishable by death may enter a plea of guilty at any time after the indictment.

§ 15A-2001(b) If the defendant enters a guilty plea to first degree murder and the State has not given notice of intent to seek the death penalty as provided in G.S. 15A-2004 or the State has agreed to accept a sentence of life imprisonment where it initially gave notice of intent to seek the death penalty, then the court shall sentence the person to life imprisonment. The defendant may plead guilty to first degree murder and the State may agree to accept a sentence of life imprisonment, even if evidence of an aggravating circumstance exists.

§ 15A-2001(c) If the defendant enters a guilty plea to first degree murder and the State has given notice of its intent to seek the death penalty, then the court may sentence the defendant to life imprisonment or to death pursuant to the procedures of G.S. 15A-2000. Before sentencing the defendant in a case in which the State has given notice of its intent to seek the death penalty, the presiding judge shall impanel a jury for the limited purpose of hearing evidence and determining a sentence recommendation as to the appropriate sentence pursuant to G.S. 15A-2000. The jury's sentence recommendation in cases where the defendant pleads guilty and the State has given notice of its intent to seek the death penalty shall be determined under the same procedure of G.S. 15A-2000 applicable to defendants who have been tried and found guilty by a jury.

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		1989	2001
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT			
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1977	c. 406, s. 2	ENACTED
02	2001	S.L. 2001-81, s. 2	AMENDED

APPARATUS II
2 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-2004	(b)	"the death penalty as provided in"
G.S. 15A-2000	(c)	"death pursuant to the procedures of"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 15A-2001 (2001).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 15A-2001(a) (2001).

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, c. 406, s. 2; 2001-81, s. 2.)

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NORTH CAROLINA LAW — STATUTE EXPORT, FORMAT V1

