



CHAPTER 15A
ARTICLE 16 - ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE

N.C.G.S. § 15A-288.

Manufacture, distribution, possession,
and advertising of wire, oral, or
electronic communication intercepting
devices prohibited.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT c. 407, s. 1 — first act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 02:21 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 8192aed7100cd9a0b90351eb - 6662491d96bd08506dd57d80 - 93eb8e239bdf58c4
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§ 15A-288(a)

CLASS H FELONY

Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Article, a person is guilty of a Class H felony if the person:

- (1) Manufactures, assembles, possesses, purchases, or sells any electronic, mechanical, or other device, knowing or having reason to know that the design of the device renders it primarily useful for the purpose of the surreptitious interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications; or
- (2) Places in any newspaper, magazine, handbill, or other publication, any advertisement of:
 - a.Any electronic, mechanical, or other device knowing or having reason to know that the design of the device renders it primarily useful for the purpose of the surreptitious interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications; or
 - b.Any other electronic, mechanical, or other device where the advertisement promotes the use of the device for the purpose of the surreptitious interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications.

§ 15A-288(b)

It is not unlawful under this section for the following persons to manufacture, assemble, possess, purchase, or sell any electronic, mechanical, or other device, knowing or having reason to know that the design of the device renders it primarily

useful for the purpose of the surreptitious interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications:

- (1) A communications common carrier or an officer, agent, or employee of, or a person under contract with, a communications common carrier, acting in the normal course of the communications common carrier's business, or
- (2) An officer, agent, or employee of, or a person under contract with, the State, acting in the course of the activities of the State, and with the written authorization of the Attorney General.

§ 15A-288(c)

An officer, agent, or employee of, or a person whose normal and customary business is to design, manufacture, assemble, advertise and sell electronic, mechanical and other devices primarily useful for the purpose of the surreptitious interceptions of wire, oral, or electronic communications, exclusively for and restricted to State and federal investigative or law enforcement agencies and departments.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
1 ACT

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.

1995			1996
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR			DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1995	c. 407, s. 1	ENACTED

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 15A-288 (1995).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 15A-288(a) (1995).

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
(1995, c. 407, s. 1.)

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NORTH CAROLINA LAW — STATUTE EXPORT, FORMAT V1

