



CHAPTER 15A
ARTICLE 20 - ARREST

N.C.G.S. § 15A-405.

Assistance to law-enforcement officers by private persons to effect arrest or prevent escape; benefits for private persons.

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, 02:08 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 1ebaf341f37a70bcab71dc08 - e2ac937d7252f21ca9cd70ca - 0da27649360dd21f
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§ 15A-405(a) Assistance upon Request; Authority. - Private persons may assist law-enforcement of - ficers in effecting arrests and preventing escapes from custody when requested to do so by the officer. When so requested, a private person has the same authority to effect an arrest or prevent escape from custody as the officer making the request. He does not incur civil or criminal liability for an invalid arrest unless he knows the arrest to be invalid. Nothing in this subsection constitutes justification for willful, malicious or criminally negligent conduct by such person which injures or endangers any person or property, nor shall it be construed to excuse or justify the use of unreasonable or excessive force.

§ 15A-405(b) Benefits to Private Persons. - A private person assisting a law-enforcement officer pursuant to subsection (a) is:

- (1) Repealed by Session Laws 1989, c. 290, s. 1.
- (2) Entitled to the same benefits as a "law-enforcement officer" as that term is defined in G.S. 143-166.2, the Public Safety Employees' Death Benefit Act; and
- (3) To be treated as an employee of the employer of the law-enforcement officer within the meaning of G.S. 97-2(2) (Workers' Compensation Act).

The Governor and the Council of State are authorized to allocate funds from the Contingency and Emergency Fund for the payment of benefits under subdivision (3)

when no other source is available for the payment of such benefits and when they determine that such allocation is necessary and appropriate. (1868-9, c. 178, subch. 1, s. 2; Code, s. 1125; Rev., s. 3181; C.S., s. 4547; 1973, c. 1286, s. 1; 1979, c. 714, s. 2; 1989, c. 290, s. 1; 2018-5, s. 35.29(b).)

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

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. 143-166.2	(b)(2)	"as that term is defined in"
G.S. 97-2(2)	(b)(3)	"law-enforcement officer within the meaning of"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 15A-405 (2026).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 15A-405(a) (2026).

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.

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