



CHAPTER 15A  
ARTICLE 32 - INDICTMENT AND RELATED INSTRUMENTS

N.C.G.S. § 15A-641.

Indictment and related instruments; def -  
initions of indictment, information, and  
presentment.

|                                                                                          |                                                                                |                                           |                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SOURCE<br>General Statutes of North<br>Carolina, as published by the<br>General Assembly | LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS<br>TEXT<br>c. 166, s. 27 — eighth act in the<br>lineage | RETRIEVED<br>21 September 2026, 05:38 UTC | SOURCE FINGERPRINT<br>225318045cae1f66a178d400 -<br>70eaf53492af05b8b84950ee -<br>eab3b17b288e38c2 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

- § 15A-641(a)

Any indictment is a written accusation by a grand jury, filed with a superior court, charging a person with the commission of one or more criminal offenses.
- § 15A-641(b)

An information is a written accusation by a prosecutor, filed with a superior court, charging a person represented by counsel with the commission of one or more criminal offenses.
- § 15A-641(c)

A presentment is a written accusation by a grand jury, made on its own motion and filed with a superior court, charging a person, or two or more persons jointly, with the commission of one or more criminal offenses. A presentment does not institute criminal proceedings against any person, but the district attorney is obligated to investigate the factual background of every presentment returned in his district and to submit bills of indictment to the grand jury dealing with the subject matter of any presentments when it is appropriate to do so.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I  
8 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.

|    |                                                                             |                    |      |   |   |            |      |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------|---|---|------------|------|
|    |                                                                             |                    |      | : | : |            |      |
|    | 1797                                                                        |                    | 1886 |   |   |            | 1975 |
|    | TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR      DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT |                    |      |   |   |            |      |
| Nº | YEAR                                                                        | ACT                |      |   |   | CHARACTER  |      |
| 01 | 1797                                                                        | c. 474, s. 3, P.R. |      |   |   | ENACTED    |      |
| 02 | 1797                                                                        | R.C., c. 35, s. 6  |      |   |   | AMENDED    |      |
| 03 | 1879                                                                        | c. 12              |      |   |   | AMENDED    |      |
| 04 | 1879                                                                        | Code, s. 1175      |      |   |   | AMENDED    |      |
| 05 | Rev.                                                                        | s. 3240            |      |   |   | RECODIFIED |      |
| 06 | C.S.                                                                        | s. 4607            |      |   |   | RECODIFIED |      |
| 07 | 1973                                                                        | c. 1286, s. 1      |      |   |   | AMENDED    |      |
| 08 | 1975                                                                        | c. 166, s. 27      |      |   |   | AMENDED    |      |

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION  
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 15A-641 (1975).

PINPOINT  
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 15A-641(a) (1975).

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

(1797, c. 474, s. 3, P.R.; R.C., c. 35, s. 6; 1879, c. 12; Code, s. 1175; Rev., s. 3240; C.S., s. 4607; 1973, c. 1286, s. 1; 1975, c. 166, s. 27.)

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