



CHAPTER 17F

N.C.G.S. § 17F-21.

Disposition of retired service animals.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	No amendment history on record	21 September 2026, 01:22 UTC	7899e82826968f4d773a4868 - 4936af088f4c02f4bb4042a4 - 543b4c402828f7f5

- § 17F-21(a)
- Upon determination that any service animal is no longer fit or needed for public service, the State or unit of local government may transfer ownership of the animal at a price determined by the State or unit of local government and upon any other terms and conditions as the State or unit of local government deems appropriate, to any of the following individuals, if that individual agrees to accept ownership, care, and custody of the service animal:
- (1)

The officer or employee who had normal custody and control of the service animal during the service animal's public service to the State or unit of local government.
- (2)

A surviving spouse or, if unsurvived by a spouse, surviving children of the officer or employee killed in the line of duty who had normal custody and control of the service animal during the service animal's public service to the State or unit of local government.
- (3)

An organization or program dedicated to the assistance or support of service animals retired from public service.

- § 17F-21(b)
- For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:
- (1)

Service animal. - Any horse, dog, or other animal owned by the State or a unit of local government that performs law enforcement, public safety, or emergency service functions.
- (2)

Unit of local government. - As defined in G.S. 159-7(b). (2016-101, s. 1; recodified from N.C. Gen. Stat. 20-187.4 by 2023-46, s. 5.)

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS II
1 AUTHORITY

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. 159-7(b)	(b)(2)	"local government. - As defined in"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 17F-21 (2026).

PINPOINT
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 17F-21(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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