



CHAPTER 20
ARTICLE 3 - MOTOR VEHICLE ACT OF 1937

N.C.G.S. § 20-174.1.

Standing, sitting or lying upon highways
or streets prohibited; obstruction of
emergency vehicles; civil liability.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 2024-16, s. 4(a) — fourth act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 04:49 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 9f03af4f5432da4ceaed09e9 - 15055031625d30683f61c2ce - 7700ecc9757bcf52
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- § 20-174.1(a)

A person who willfully stands, sits, or lies upon the highway or street in such a manner as to impede the regular flow of traffic is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.
- § 20-174.1(b)

Repealed by Session Laws 2024-16, s. 4(a), effective December 1, 2024, and applicable to offenses committed and causes of action arising on or after that date.
- § 20-174.1(c)

CLASS A1 / H
MISDEMEANOR

A person who violates subsection (a) of this section while participating in a demonstration intended to prohibit or impede the use of the highway or street is guilty of a Class A1 misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class H felony for a second or subsequent offense.
- § 20-174.1(d)

CLASS A1
MISDEMEANOR

A person who violates subsection (a) of this section and obstructs an emergency vehicle, as defined in G.S. 14-34.1A, from accessing the highway or street is guilty of a Class A1 misdemeanor.
- § 20-174.1(e)

Any person who organizes a demonstration that prohibits or impedes the use of a highway or street is civilly liable for injury to or death of any person resulting from delays caused by the obstruction of an emergency vehicle in violation of subsection (d) of this section. An action may be brought under this subsection regardless of whether a criminal action is brought or a criminal conviction is obtained for the conduct alleged in the civil action.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
4 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.

	1965		1995		2024
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT					
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER		
01	1965	c. 137	ENACTED		
02	1969	c. 1012	AMENDED		
03	1969	1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 761, s. 17	AMENDED		
04	2024	S.L. 2024-16, s. 4(a)	AMENDED		

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. 14-34.1A	(d)	"an emergency vehicle, as defined in"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-174.1 (2024).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-174.1(a) (2024).

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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The text of the section is unaltered. Subsection designators have been moved from the run of text into the margin. The amendment history and the table of authorities are derived from the section by mechanical extraction — they add no characterization of the law.

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

(1965, c. 137; 1969, c. 1012; 1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 761, s. 17; 2024-16, s. 4(a).)

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