



CHAPTER 20
ARTICLE 3 - MOTOR VEHICLE ACT OF 1937

N.C.G.S. § 20-79.6.

Special registration plates for members of the judiciary.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2025-54, s. 19(b) — sixth act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 05:36 UTC	6041fcb7dde69c64fdc53022 - 1b40cc040ae86c53d84a6d2b - 28bea4ec61157961

§ 20-79.6(a) Supreme Court. - A special plate issued to a Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court shall bear the words "Supreme Court" and the Great Seal of North Carolina and a number from 1 through 7. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina shall be issued the plate bearing the number 1 and the remaining plates shall be issued to the Associate Justices on the basis of seniority.

Special plates issued to retired members of the Supreme Court shall bear a number indicating the member's position of seniority at the time of retirement followed by the letter "X" to indicate the member's retired status.

§ 20-79.6(a1) Court of Appeals. - A special plate issued to a Judge of the North Carolina Court of Appeals shall bear the words "Court of Appeals" and the Great Seal of North Carolina and a number beginning with the number 1. The Chief Judge of the North Carolina Court of Appeals shall be issued a plate with the number 1 and the remaining plates shall be issued to the Associate Judges with the numbers assigned on the basis of seniority.

Special plates issued to retired members of the Court of Appeals shall bear a number indicating the member's position of seniority at the time of retirement followed by the letter "X" to indicate the member's retired status.

§ 20-79.6(b) Superior Court. - A special plate issued to a senior resident superior court judge shall bear the letter "J" followed by a number indicative of the judicial district or set of districts the judge serves, as defined in G.S. 7A-41.1(a)(1). Special plates issued to

senior resident superior court judges serving districts 7A, 7B, 8A, 9A, 9B, 15A, 15B, 43A, and 43B shall also include the letter associated with the district's number, as defined in G.S. 7A-41.1(a)(1). The special plate for the senior resident superior court judge for the set of districts comprised of districts 8B and 8C shall be designated as 8BC.

A special plate issued to a regular resident superior court judge shall bear the letter "J" followed by the same alphanumeric designation as the special plate issued to the senior resident superior court judge in the district or set of districts in which the judge serves followed by a hyphen and a letter of the alphabet beginning with the letter "A" to indicate the judge's seniority.

Where there are two or more regular resident superior court judges of equal service, the oldest of those judges shall receive the next letter registration plate.

A special judge, emergency judge, or retired judge of the superior court shall be issued a special plate bearing the letter "J" followed by a number designated by the Administrative Office of the Courts with the approval of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina. The plate for a retired judge shall have the letter "X" after the designated number to indicate the judge's retired status.

§ 20-79.6(b1)

Clerk of Superior Court. - A special plate issued to a clerk of superior court shall bear the words "Clerk Superior Court" and the letter "C" followed by a number indicative of the county the clerk serves. Special plates issued to retired clerks of superior court shall bear a number indicating the clerk's county of service at the time of retirement followed by the letter "X" to indicate the clerk's retired status.

§ 20-79.6(c)

District Court. - A special plate issued to a North Carolina district court judge shall bear the letter "J" followed by a number. For the chief judge of the district court district, the number shall be equal to the sum of the numerical designation of the district court district the chief judge serves, plus 100. The number for all other judges of the district courts serving within the same district court district shall be the same number as appears on the special plate issued to the chief district judge followed by a letter of the alphabet beginning with the letter "A" to indicate the judge's seniority. A retired district court judge shall be issued a similar plate except that the numerical designation shall be followed by the letter "X" to indicate the judge's retired status.

§ 20-79.6(d)

United States. - A special plate issued to a Justice of the United States Supreme Court, a Judge of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, or a District Judge of the United States District Court residing in North Carolina shall bear the words "U.S. J" followed

by a number beginning with "1". The number shall reflect the judge's seniority based on continuous service as a United States Judge as designated by the Secretary of State. A judge who has retired or taken senior status shall be issued a similar plate except that the number shall be based on the date of the judge's retirement or assumption of senior status and shall follow the numerical designation of active justices and judges.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
6 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.

1991		2008		2025
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR		DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT		
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER	
01	1991	c. 672, s. 2	ENACTED	
02	1991	c. 726, s. 23	AMENDED	
03	1999	S.L. 1999-403, s. 5	AMENDED	
04	1999	S.L. 1999-456, s. 67.1	AMENDED	
05	2022	S.L. 2022-6, s. 19.1(b)	AMENDED	
06	2025	S.L. 2025-54, s. 19(b)	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. 7A-41.1(a)(1)	(b)	"the judge serves, as defined in"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-79.6 (2025).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-79.6(a) (2025).

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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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

(1991, c. 672, s. 2; c. 726, s. 23; 1999-403, s. 5; 1999-456, s. 67.1; 2022-6, s. 19.1(b); 2025-54, s. 19(b).)

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