



CHAPTER 42

ARTICLE 6 - TENANT SECURITY DEPOSIT ACT

N.C.G.S. § 42-51.

Permitted uses of the deposit.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2012-194, s. 59(a), (b) — seventh act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 03:34 UTC	bac36060114765ef099343be - 8b80aaab7dcc1bc3ce3671df - f9c971aaa589c221

§ 42-51(a)

Security deposits for residential dwelling units shall be permitted only for the following:

- (1) The tenant's possible nonpayment of rent and costs for water or sewer services provided pursuant to G.S. 62-110(g) and electric service pursuant to G.S. 62-110(h).
- (2) Damage to the premises, including damage to or destruction of smoke alarms or carbon monoxide alarms.
- (3) Damages as the result of the nonfulfillment of the rental period, except where the tenant terminated the rental agreement under G.S. 42-45, G.S. 42-45.1- , or because the tenant was forced to leave the property because of the landlord's violation of Article 2A of Chapter 42 of the General Statutes or was constructively evicted by the landlord's violation of G.S. 42-42(a).
- (4) Any unpaid bills that become a lien against the demised property due to the tenant's occupancy.
- (5) The costs of re-renting the premises after breach by the tenant, including any reasonable fees or commissions paid by the landlord to a licensed real estate broker to re-rent the premises.
- (6) The costs of removal and storage of the tenant's property after a summary ejectment proceeding.
- (7) Court costs.
- (8) Any fee permitted by G.S. 42-46.

§ 42-51(b)

The security deposit shall not exceed an amount equal to two weeks' rent if a tenancy is week to week, one and one-half months' rent if a tenancy is month to month, and two months' rent for terms greater than month to month. These deposits must be fully accounted for by the landlord as set forth in G.S. 42-52.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
7 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.



Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1977	c. 914, s. 1	ENACTED
02	1983	c. 672, s. 3	AMENDED
03	2001	S.L. 2001-502, s. 5	AMENDED
04	2004	S.L. 2004-143, s. 6	AMENDED
05	2011	S.L. 2011-252, s. 3	AMENDED
06	2012	S.L. 2012-17, s. 4	AMENDED
07	2012	S.L. 2012-194, s. 59(a), (b)	AMENDED

APPARATUS II
7 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. 62-110(g)	(a)(1)	"or sewer services provided pursuant to"
G.S. 62-110(h)	(a)(1)	"62-110(g) and electric service pursuant to"
G.S. 42-45	(a)(3)	"tenant terminated the rental agreement under"
G.S. 42-45.1	(a)(3)	"the rental agreement under G.S. 42-45,"
G.S. 42-42(a)	(a)(3)	"evicted by the landlord's violation of"

G.S. 42-46	(a)(8)	"Any fee permitted by"
G.S. 42-52	(b)	"the landlord as set forth in"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 42-51 (2012).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 42-51(a) (2012).

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

(1977, c. 914, s. 1; 1983, c. 672, s. 3; 2001-502, s. 5; 2004-143, s. 6; 2011-252, s. 3; 2012-17, s. 4; 2012-194, s. 59(a), (b).)

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