



CHAPTER 45
ARTICLE 4 - SATISFACTION

N.C.G.S. § 45-36.23.

Obligation release: content and effect.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT No amendment history on record	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 03:32 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 796bfe13e7691894c69c338d - cb3de0bdabee6b21f2fc61c6 - cd47484cd3b085b2
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- § 45-36.23(a)

A document is an obligation release if it does all of the following:

(1)

Identifies the type of security instrument, the original parties to the security instrument, the recording data for the security instrument, and the office in which the security instrument is recorded.

(2)

States that the person signing the obligation release is the owner and holder of the obligation or obligations to be released.

(3)

Identifies one or more of the specific obligations that are secured by the security instrument and contains language confirming that, with respect to each such secured obligation, the obligation is no longer secured by the security instrument.

(4)

Is signed and acknowledged as required by law for a conveyance of an interest in real property by the owner and holder of the specific obligation or obligations to be released.
- § 45-36.23(b)

The register of deeds shall accept an obligation release for recording unless one of the following applies:

(1)

The document is submitted by a method or in a medium not authorized for registration by the register of deeds under applicable law.

(2)

The required recording fee is not paid.

- (3) The document is not signed and acknowledged as required by law for a conveyance of an interest in real property by the owner and holder of the obligation or obligations to be released. The register of deeds shall not be required to verify or make inquiry concerning (i) the truth of the matters stated in any obligation release or (ii) the authority of the person executing any obligation release to do so.

§ 45-36.23(c) From and after the date an obligation release is recorded, the obligation or obligations specifically identified and released in the obligation release (and only such obligation or obligations) shall no longer be secured by the security instrument, without regard to whether the obligation has been paid in full and satisfied. Unless the obligation release states that the secured obligation has been paid in full and satisfied, the recording of an obligation release does not by itself extinguish any liability of a person for payment or performance of the obligation or obligations released.

§ 45-36.23(d) Secured obligations that are not specifically identified and released in an obligation release remain secured by the security instrument, and the recording of an obligation release does not extinguish any liability of a person for payment or performance of the remaining secured obligation or obligations. The recording of an obligation release has no effect on the lien of the security instrument on the real property described in the security instrument.

§ 45-36.23(e) Unless the deed of trust provides otherwise, the trustee in a deed of trust is not a necessary party to an obligation release.

§ 45-36.23(f) No particular phrasing is required for an obligation release. The following form, when properly completed, is sufficient to satisfy the requirements of G.S. 45-36.23(a):

"OBLIGATION RELEASE

(G.S. 45-36.23)

The undersigned is now the owner and holder of the obligation(s) to be released by this instrument. As used in this release, the term "Security Instrument" refers to the security instrument identified as follows:

Type of Security Instrument: (identify type of security instrument, such as deed of trust or mortgage)

Original Grantor(s): (identify original grantor(s), trustor(s), or mortgagor(s))

Original Secured Party(ies): (identify the original beneficiary(ies), mortgagee(s), or secured party(ies) in the security instrument)

Recording Data: The security instrument is recorded in Book ____ at Page ____ or as document number _____ in the office of the Register of Deeds for _____ County, North Carolina.

Secured obligations that are no longer secured. Each of the following obligations is no longer secured by the Security Instrument, without regard to whether the obligation has been paid in full and satisfied: (identify with particularity each secured obligation that will no longer be secured by the Security Instrument)

(Optional provision which may be used in addition to or in lieu of the paragraph above:)

Secured obligations that have been paid in full and satisfied. Each of the following obligations has been paid in full and satisfied and is consequently no longer secured by the Security Instrument: (identify with particularity each secured obligation that has been paid in full and satisfied and is consequently no longer secured by the Security Instrument)

Date:

Signature of owner and holder of the obligation(s) to be released

[Acknowledgment before officer authorized to take acknowledgments]". (2011-312, s. 10.)

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS II
2 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. 45-36.23(a)	(f)	"sufficient to satisfy the requirements of"
G.S. 45-36.23	(f)	"(

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 45-36.23 (2026).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 45-36.23(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.

COLOPHON

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