



CHAPTER 66

ARTICLE 29 - INVENTION DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

N.C.G.S. § 66-209.

Definitions.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	c. 235, s. 1 — third act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 04:14 UTC	f7cb9b472bf6ced0db977e21 - 805245d337002809ca17319a - 8c709834a2d3155c

As used in this Article, the following terms shall have the meanings given:

"Contract" or "contract for invention development services" means a contract by which an invention developer undertakes invention development services for a customer for a stated payment or consideration, whether or not the payment or consideration has yet been made.

"Customer" means any natural person who is solicited by, inquires about, seeks the services of, or enters into a contract with an invention developer for invention development services.

"Invention development services" means any act done by or for an invention developer for the procurement or attempted procurement by the invention developer of a licensee or buyer of an intellectual property right in an invention. The term includes the evaluation, perfecting, marketing, brokering, or promoting of an invention, a patent search, and preparation or prosecution of a patent application by a person not registered to practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

"Invention" means any discovery, process, machine, design, formulation, composition of matter, product, concept, or idea, or any combination of these.

"Invention developer" is an individual, firm, partnership, or corporation, or an agent, employee, officer, partner, or independent contractor of one of those entities, that offers to perform or performs invention development services for a customer and that is not:

- a.A department or agency of the federal, State, or local government;
- b.A charitable, scientific, educational, religious, or other organization qualified under G.S. 105-130.9 or described in Section 170(b)(1)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;
- c.A person registered before the United States Patent and Trademark Office acting solely within the scope of that person's professional license;

d.A person, firm, corporation, association, or other entity that does not charge a fee, including reimbursement for expenditures made or costs incurred by the entity, for invention development services other than payment made from a portion of the income received by a customer by virtue of the acts performed by the entity; or

e.An attorney licensed to practice law in North Carolina acting solely within the scope of that person's professional license.

"Business day" means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
3 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.

1989		1990	1991
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT			
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1989	c. 746, s. 1	ENACTED
02	1989	c. 770, s. 62.1(1), (2)	AMENDED
03	1991	c. 235, s. 1	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. 105-130.9		"religious, or other organization qualified under"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 66-209 (1991).

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

(1989, c. 746, s. 1; c. 770, s. 62.1(1), (2); 1991, c. 235, s. 1.)

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