



CHAPTER 70
ARTICLE 3 - UNMARKED HUMAN BURIAL AND HUMAN SKELETAL REMAINS PROTECTION ACT

N.C.G.S. § 70-29.

Discovery of remains and notification of authorities.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2007-484, s. 10(b) — third act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 04:45 UTC	27b6d08904a1a20604d159b2 - 1328f722b9b60841b2bda9fd - 013501f08a0ca293

- § 70-29(a)

Any person knowing or having reasonable grounds to believe that unmarked human burials or human skeletal remains are being disturbed, destroyed, defaced, mutilated, removed, or exposed, shall notify immediately the medical examiner of the county in which the remains are encountered.
- § 70-29(b)

If the unmarked human burials or human skeletal remains are encountered as a result of construction or agricultural activities, disturbance of the remains shall cease immediately and shall not resume without authorization from either the county medical examiner or the State Archaeologist, under the provisions of G.S. 70-30(c) or 70-30(d).
- § 70-29(c)

(1)If the unmarked human burials or human skeletal remains are encountered by a professional archaeologist, as a result of survey or test excavations, the remains may be excavated and other activities may resume after notification, by telephone or registered letter, is provided to the State Archaeologist. The treatment, analysis and disposition of the remains shall come under the provisions of G.S. 70-34 and 70-35.

(2) If a professional archaeologist directing long-term (research designed to continue for one or more field seasons of four or more weeks' duration) systematic archaeological research sponsored by any accredited college or university in North Carolina, as a part of his research, recovers Native American skeletal remains, he may be exempted from the provisions of G.S. 70-30, 70-31, 70-32, 70-33, 70-34 and 70-35(c) of this Article so long as he:

- a.Notifies the Executive Director within five working days of the initial discovery of Native American skeletal remains;
- b.Reports to the Executive Director, at agreed upon intervals, the status of the project;
- c.Curates the skeletal remains prior to ultimate disposition; and
- d.Conducts no destructive skeletal analysis without the express permission of the Executive Director.

Upon completion of the project fieldwork, the professional archaeologist, in consultation with the skeletal analyst and the Executive Director, shall determine the schedule for the completion of the skeletal analysis. In the event of a disagreement, the time for completion of the skeletal analysis shall not exceed four years. The Executive Director shall have authority concerning the ultimate disposition of the Native American skeletal remains after analysis is completed in accordance with G.S. 70-35(a) and 70-36(b) and (c).

§ 70-29(d) The State Archaeologist shall notify the Chief, Medical Examiner Section, Division of Health Services, Department of Health and Human Services, of any reported human skeletal remains discovered by a professional archaeologist.

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.

1981		1994	2007
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT			
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1981	c. 853, s. 2	ENACTED
02	1997	S.L. 1997-443, s. 11A.118(a)	AMENDED
03	2007	S.L. 2007-484, s. 10(b)	AMENDED

APPARATUS II
4 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. 70-30(c)	(b)	<i>"State Archaeologist, under the provisions of"</i>
G.S. 70-34	(c)	<i>"shall come under the provisions of"</i>
G.S. 70-30	(c)(2)	<i>"be exempted from the provisions of"</i>
G.S. 70-35(a)	(c)	<i>"analysis is completed in accordance with"</i>

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 70-29 (2007).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 70-29(a) (2007).

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

This document reproduces the text of one section of the General Statutes of North Carolina from a source file whose SHA-256 digest is printed on every page. The digest fixes the bytes this export was made from; if the State's file changes, the digest will not match.

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
(1981, c. 853, s. 2; 1997-443, s. 11A.118(a); 2007-484, s. 10(b).)

SET IN SPECTRAL AND ARCHIVO
NORTH CAROLINA LAW — STATUTE EXPORT, FORMAT V1

