



CHAPTER 75

ARTICLE 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

N.C.G.S. § 75-42.

Deceptive representation of geographical location in telephone directory, print advertisement, or on the internet.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	No amendment history on record	21 September 2026, 02:50 UTC	e98cdaa75aecd2011c871205 - f984dbc10a96db2351f83b7d - 30ec61db8e2e4b02

§ 75-42(a)

A person who is in the business of supplying a perishable product shall not misrepresent the geographical location of the business in the listing of the business in a telephone directory, other directory assistance database, or on the internet. A person misrepresents the geographical location of the business under this subsection if the name of the business, or any other part of the listing, indicates that the business is located in a geographical area and all of the following apply:

- (1) The business is not located within the geographical area indicated.
- (2) The listing fails to identify the municipality and state of the business's geographical location.
- (3) A telephone call to the local telephone number listed in the telephone directory, directory assistance database, or on the internet routinely is forwarded or transferred to a location that is outside the calling area covered by the telephone directory or directory assistance database in which the number is listed, or outside the local calling area for the local telephone number posted on the internet.

§ 75-42(b)

A person who is in the business of supplying a perishable product shall not misrepresent the geographical location of the business in print advertisement. A person misrepresents the geographical location of the business under this subsection

if a fictitious business name, an assumed business name, or any other part of the advertisement is listed in print advertisement and all of the following apply:

- (1) The name or any other part of the advertisement misrepresents the geographic location of the supplier.
- (2) A telephone call to the local telephone number listed on the print advertisement routinely is forwarded or transferred to a location that is outside the calling area in which the number is listed.

§ 75-42(c)

A person who misrepresents the geographical location of the business under subsection (a) or subsection (b) of this section is not in violation of this section if a conspicuous notice in the listing or in the print advertisement states the municipality and state in which the business is located and identifies this as the location of the business.

§ 75-42(d)

For purposes of this section, a newspaper publisher, magazine or other publication, telephone directory or directory assistance service, its officer or agent, the owner or operator of a radio or television station, or any other owner or operator of a media primarily devoted to listing phone numbers or to advertising who publishes, broadcasts, or otherwise disseminates a directory, a database, or print advertisement in good faith without knowledge of its false, deceptive, or misleading character is immune from liability under this section unless the directory service, the database service, or the advertiser is the same person as the person, firm, or corporation that has committed the act prohibited by this section.

§ 75-42(e)

A violation of this section is an unfair trade practice under G.S. 75-1.1. (2007-545, s. 1; 2009-199, s. 1; 2025-25, s. 29(3).)

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

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. 75-1.1	(e)	<i>"is an unfair trade practice under"</i>

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 75-42 (2026).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 75-42(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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