



CHAPTER 7B
ARTICLE 4 - VENUE; PETITIONS

N.C.G.S. § 7B-400.

Venue.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 2025-16, s. 1.4(b) — seventh act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 04:47 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT f1a1f2a8256d6659ed30366a - 0217f72670a15c30252344bd - ecbe696cb2dd9396
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- § 7B-400(a)

A proceeding in which a juvenile is alleged to be abused, neglected, or dependent may be commenced in the judicial district in which the juvenile resides or is present at the time the petition is filed. If a regional social services department includes counties in more than one judicial district, the department shall file in the judicial district where the child resides or was present when the report required by G.S. 7B-301 was received. Notwithstanding G.S. 153A-257, the absence of a juvenile from the juvenile's home pursuant to a protection plan during an assessment or the provision of case management services by a department of social services shall not change the original venue if it subsequently becomes necessary to file a juvenile petition.
- § 7B-400(b)

When the director in one county conducts an assessment pursuant to G.S. 7B-302 in another county because a conflict of interest exists, the director in the county conducting the assessment may file a resulting petition in either county.
- § 7B-400(c)

For good cause, the court may grant a motion for a change of venue before adjudication. A pre-adjudication change of venue shall not affect the identity of the petitioner, unless a conflict of interest arising under G.S. 7B-302.1 necessitates a substitution of parties.
- § 7B-400(d)

Any change of venue after adjudication shall be pursuant to G.S. 7B-900.1.

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.

	1979		2002					2025
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT								
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER					
01	1979	c. 815, s. 1	ENACTED					
02	1998	S.L. 1998-202, s. 6	AMENDED					
03	1999	S.L. 1999-456, s. 60	AMENDED					
04	2009	S.L. 2009-311, s. 2	AMENDED					
05	2013	S.L. 2013-129, s. 7	AMENDED					
06	2017	S.L. 2017-41, s. 4.4	AMENDED					
07	2025	S.L. 2025-16, s. 1.4(b)	AMENDED					

APPARATUS II
5 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. 7B-301	(a)	"present when the report required by"
G.S. 153A-257	(a)	"by G.S. 7B-301 was received. Notwithstanding"
G.S. 7B-302	(b)	"county conducts an assessment pursuant to"
G.S. 7B-302.1	(c)	"a conflict of interest arising under"
G.S. 7B-900.1	(d)	"after adjudication shall be pursuant to"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 7B-400 (2025).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 7B-400(a) (2025).

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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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

(1979, c. 815, s. 1; 1998-202, s. 6; 1999-456, s. 60; 2009-311, s. 2; 2013-129, s. 7; 2017-41, s. 4.4; 2025-16, s. 1.4(b).)

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