



CHAPTER 8
ARTICLE 7 - COMPETENCY OF WITNESSES

N.C.G.S. § 8-53.

Communications between health care provider and patient.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2019-191, s. 41 — eighth act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 03:27 UTC	db80139a0b07e198f00a9c4e - db291d86c4008d32d2ef2bf7 - 7b9aac5cea3de6c7

No person, duly authorized to practice under Article 1 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes, shall be required to disclose any information which he may have acquired in attending a patient in a professional character, and which information was necessary to enable him to prescribe for such patient as a physician, or to do any act for him as a surgeon, and no such information shall be considered public records under G.S. 132-1. Confidential information obtained in medical records shall be furnished only on the authorization of the patient, or if deceased, the executor, administrator, or, in the case of unadministered estates, the next of kin. Any resident or presiding judge in the district, either at the trial or prior thereto, or the Industrial Commission pursuant to law may, subject to G.S. 8-53.6, compel disclosure if in his opinion disclosure is necessary to a proper administration of justice. If the case is in district court the judge shall be a district court judge, and if the case is in superior court the judge shall be a superior court judge.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
8 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.

1885				1952				2019
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT								
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER					
01	1885	c. 159	ENACTED					

02	Rev.	s. 1621	RECODIFIED
03	C.S.	s. 1798	RECODIFIED
04	1969	c. 914	AMENDED
05	1977	c. 1118	AMENDED
06	1983	c. 410, ss. 1, 2	AMENDED
07	1983	c. 471	AMENDED
08	2019	S.L. 2019-191, s. 41	AMENDED

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. 132-1		<i>"shall be considered public records under"</i>
G.S. 8-53.6		<i>"pursuant to law may, subject to"</i>

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 8-53 (2019).

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

(1885, c. 159; Rev., s. 1621; C.S., s. 1798; 1969, c. 914; 1977, c. 1118; 1983, c. 410, ss. 1, 2; c. 471; 2019-191, s. 41.)

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