



CHAPTER 84

ARTICLE 4 - NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR

N.C.G.S. § 84-37.

State Bar may investigate and enjoin unauthorized activities.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2004-174, s. 2 — fourth act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 04:01 UTC	4386a9966262bb566c71479a - 430f245e8c79ed30291a9541 - 7b21efc7654016cc

§ 84-37(a)

The Council or any committee appointed by it for that purpose may inquire into and investigate any charges or complaints of (i) unauthorized or unlawful practice of law or (ii) the use of the designations, "North Carolina Certified Paralegal," "North Carolina State Bar Certified Paralegal," or "Paralegal Certified by the North Carolina State Bar Board of Paralegal Certification," by individuals who have not been certified in accordance with the rules adopted by the North Carolina State Bar. The Council may bring or cause to be brought and maintained in the name of the North Carolina State Bar an action or actions, upon information or upon the complaint of any person or entity against any person or entity that engages in rendering any legal service, holds himself or herself out as a North Carolina certified paralegal by use of the designations set forth in this subsection, or makes it a practice or business to render legal services that are unauthorized or prohibited by law. No bond for cost shall be required in the proceeding.

§ 84-37(b)

In an action brought under this section, the final judgment if in favor of the plaintiff - f shall perpetually restrain the defendant or defendants from the commission or continuance of the unauthorized or unlawful act or acts. A temporary injunction to restrain the commission or continuance of the act or acts may be granted upon proof or by affidavit, that the defendant or defendants have violated any of the laws applicable to unauthorized or unlawful practice of law or the unauthorized use of the designations set forth in subsection (a) of this section or any other designation implying certification by the State Bar. The provisions of law relating generally to

injunctions as provisional remedies in actions shall apply to a temporary injunction and the proceedings for temporary injunctions.

§ 84-37(c) The venue for actions brought under this section shall be the superior court of any county in which the relevant acts are alleged to have been committed or in which there appear reasonable grounds that they will be committed in the county where the defendants in the action reside, or in Wake County.

§ 84-37(d) The plaintiff in the action shall be entitled to examine the adverse party and witnesses before filing complaint and before trial in the same manner as provided by law for examining parties.

§ 84-37(e) This section shall not repeal or limit any remedy now provided in cases of unauthorized or unlawful practice of law. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as disabling or abridging the inherent powers of the court in these matters.

§ 84-37(f) The Council or its duly appointed committee may issue advisory opinions in response to inquiries from members or the public regarding whether contemplated conduct would constitute the unauthorized practice of law.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
4 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.

1939		1972		2004
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR		DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT		
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER	
01	1939	c. 281	ENACTED	
02	1979	c. 570, s. 9	AMENDED	
03	1995	c. 431, s. 26	AMENDED	
04	2004	S.L. 2004-174, s. 2	AMENDED	

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 84-37 (2004).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 84-37(a) (2004).

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

(1939, c. 281; 1979, c. 570, s. 9; 1995, c. 431, s. 26; 2004-174, s. 2.)

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