



Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

700 East Fourth Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

T (704) 336-2543 • F (704) 336-6118

www.mecksheriff.com

Garry L. McFadden
Sheriff

Rodney M. Collins
Chief Deputy Sheriff

Telisa E. White
Chief of Detention

Jason R. Beebe
Chief Deputy Sheriff

MEDIA ADVISORY

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CONTACT: Janet Parker

Public Information Manager

Janet.Parker@mecklenburgcountync.gov

O: (980) 314-5170

MCSO to Discontinue Operating the Juvenile Detention Center

(CHARLOTTE, NC) – The Mecklenburg County Sheriff’s Office will discontinue operating the Mecklenburg County Juvenile Detention Center (MCJDC) effective at the conclusion of the three-year agreement with North Carolina Department of Public Safety (NCDPS) on December 1, 2022. MCSO outlined in its budget submission to the Mecklenburg County Manager that juvenile detention operations are not a statutory-mandated service that MCSO has to provide and had to be considered for reduction to prioritize office mandates given the loss of revenue because of the depopulation efforts recommended by the State after inspections that found staffing at the Detention Center Central inadequate to operate that facility.

Sheriff McFadden said, “I remain committed to the welfare of the youth in Mecklenburg County as I have been over the past four decades. We really had to prioritize the services that we are mandated to provide and discontinuing operations at the Juvenile Detention Center was not an easy decision, but when you consider the operating costs for a non-mandated function it made sound financial sense to end juvenile operations at the end of the three-year agreement with NCDPS. MCSO has a responsibility to submit a fiscally responsible budget and our focus must be on the mandated services that we provide to the citizens of Mecklenburg County. It is the State of North Carolina’s responsibility to provide juvenile detention services and with reduced funding and rising daily cost this area had to be considered for reduction.”

Most employees will be eligible to transfer to Mecklenburg County Detention Center – Central or other vacant positions at the conclusion of the agreement with NCDPS. All juveniles currently housed at the MCJDC will be transferred to other NCDPS juvenile detention facilities in the state.

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