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MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office Responds To Comments Regarding Arrestee Transfer Wait Times

(Charlotte, N.C.) - The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) has received several comments regarding the time officers spent transferring arrestees into MCSO custody on Monday, July 29, 2024. We aim to clarify the situation and dispel any inaccuracies regarding our procedures.

For visual arrests, the average time spent was 1 hour and 43 minutes. The longest time recorded was 3 hours and 29 minutes, while the shortest time was 42 minutes. Visual arrests require officers to complete paperwork and present it to the magistrate (typically without the arrestee) to determine if there is probable cause. Sometimes, officers need to make corrections or changes. Once the magistrate comes to a conclusion, he or she will call in the arrestee for processing. The officer is free to leave once the hearing has been completed.

For warrant arrests, the average time was 30 minutes. The longest time, involving an outside agency, was 42 minutes, and the shortest time was 16 minutes. When an officer arrives with a warrant arrest and the arrestee has cleared medical, they proceed to Information Gathering, where the warrant is typically printed out for them already. The officer then serves the warrant and marks it as "served" in our Odyssey system. From here, the officer is free to leave, and MCSO will process the arrestee through the magistrate for the arresting officer.

While MCSO cannot speak to the inner workings of our law enforcement or criminal justice partners, we are committed to working collaboratively to ensure the safety and security of Mecklenburg County.

“Our doors are always open. We welcome any concerns, and we are ready to provide clarity,” said Sheriff Garry McFadden. “Before turning to social media, please give us the opportunity to address the facts directly.”

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