



## MECKLENBURG COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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### MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 23, 2025

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### Reminder: Weapons Strictly Prohibited Inside the Mecklenburg County Courthouse

**(Charlotte, N.C.)** - The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) is reminding all courthouse staff and visitors to adhere to courthouse security policies following an incident on Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025, in which a court employee was arrested after bringing a gun into the courthouse.

Deputies discovered the firearm, a silver .32 caliber semi-automatic Beretta handgun, inside the employee's purse as it passed through the x-ray scanner at the security checkpoint. The employee was immediately taken into custody and charged with possession of a deadly weapon on state property/courthouse, a violation of North Carolina General Statute 14-269.4. The weapon was seized and entered the SAFE Management System.

MCSO continues to urge all employees and visitors to be mindful of their personal belongings before entering the courthouse. Firearms and other prohibited items are strictly forbidden, as outlined on the Mecklenburg County Courthouse [website](#). Security screenings, including metal detectors and live-scan imaging, are in place to prevent weapons and contraband from entering the facility.

*"Once again, bringing a firearm or any weapon into the courthouse is not only illegal - it's reckless," said Sheriff McFadden. "We take these violations seriously because this building is a place where emotions often run high. One mistake or poor decision can put dozens of lives at risk. Our priority is and always will be protecting everyone who walks through those doors."*

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