

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

TELISA E. WHITE CHIEF OF DETENTION

CHRISTOPHER O. ALLENCHIEF DEPUTY SHERIFF

SHELBY JONES
CHIEF OF STAFF

MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Sarah Mastouri

MCSO Public Information Manager | Public Information

Sarah.Mastouri@mecklenburgcountync.gov

O: (980) 314-5170

Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office to Open Post Release Resource Center to Support Successful Reentry

Charlotte, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) is proud to announce the grand opening of the Post Release Resource Center (PRRC), located in the former Weekender Reporting Center of the Detention Center off McDowell Street. This groundbreaking initiative is designed to provide vital support to individuals reentering society after incarceration.

Each year, MCSO processes approximately 13,000 releases, and many individuals face significant barriers to successful reintegration into their communities. The PRRC aims to address these challenges by serving as a comprehensive, one-stop resource hub for justice-involved residents, reducing the complexities of navigating post-release requirements and providing a supportive environment to foster success.

The PRRC will offer:

- Wrap-around services delivered by familiar MCSO staff, contractors, and partners.
- Community resource education for mental health, substance use, and vocational needs.
- Technology access for online applications and resource navigation.

• A safe and welcoming space for individuals to receive support and avoid self-harming decisions.

The center also seeks to strengthen existing partnerships with community organizations and create new collaborations to better serve released residents. The goal is to provide them with all the tools to succeed, thereby reducing recidivism and improving outcomes for all.

The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office was one of 100 organizations nationwide that received a Lowe's Home Improvement grant, worth \$40,000, to revitalize the former Weekender space and enhance the PRRC's ability to serve its clients effectively. The Lowe's grant goes toward physical improvements to community spaces, such as first responder facilities, food pantries and affordable housing services.

"Reentry can be an overwhelming process for many individuals who feel unprepared to navigate the system," Sheriff McFadden said. "The Post Release Resource Center aims to meet people where they are and help them rebuild their lives, all while enhancing public safety and community well-being."

The grand opening ceremony will take place on Monday, Nov. 25, at 10 a.m. Media are invited to attend the event and learn more about this innovative program and its potential impact on our community. Programs representatives, contractors and the Sheriff will be on site for interviews.

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