



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

CELESTE D. YOUNGBLOOD
CHIEF OF DETENTION

VALERIE M. FIELDS
CHIEF OF STAFF

SHELBY JONES
EXECUTIVE SUPPORT DIRECTOR

MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 11, 2025

CONTACT: Sarah Mastouri
Public Information Manager
Sarah.Mastouri@mecklenburgcountync.gov
O: (980)-314-5170

Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office, 26th Judicial District to Hold Active Shooter Exercise

(CHARLOTTE, N.C.) – On Friday, Dec. 12, 2025, the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) along with Mecklenburg County court officials, will hold an active shooter training exercise inside the Mecklenburg County Courthouse. An [administrative order](#) has been issued to close the courthouse to the public during this time.

Any member of the public who needs to file anything after 12 p.m. can do so at the Criminal Magistrates' Office at 801 E. 4th St., Charlotte, N.C. 28202, located directly across the street from the courthouse.

MCSO will begin clearing the courthouse of all non-authorized personnel and conduct the staging for the exercise from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. The training exercise will then be held from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Members of the public will not be allowed inside the courthouse during these times. Road closures and delays surrounding the courthouse during the training exercise are expected. Parking on courthouse property will also not be available.

Our agency is offering this exercise in keeping with best practices and to ensure the safety of judges, staff, and the public. As the agency responsible for providing security and safety for one of the largest courthouses in the Carolinas, with many citizens entering and exiting, we recognize that potential threats and harm can present themselves in many forms: extreme weather, fire, and various acts of violence. Collectively, we are concerned about the well-being of courthouse personnel and customers. We seek to provide a safe and

secure environment and have proper measures in place for responding to emergency situations should they occur. Effective crisis planning, response, and recovery capabilities are essential to meet this objective.

The primary purposes of armed assailant exercises are to build knowledge and skills for responding when presented with varying scenarios and help law enforcement and court leaders identify and correct deficiencies in knowledge, communication, coordination, and decision-making. We're hoping to save lives by preparing and empowering tenants of the courthouse to respond appropriately should the need ever arise.

###