



Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA ADVISORY FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office Will Continue to Process Pistol Purchase Permits and Concealed Handgun Permits During Coronavirus Crisis

(CHARLOTTE, NC) - Pursuant to the Stay at Home Order issued by the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners, effective today at 8 a.m., the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office has closed the Registration Office responsible for fingerprinting, pistol purchase permits, concealed handgun permits, and court ordered registration for sex offenders to the public. The Sheriff suspended fingerprinting services for all purposes other than concealed carry permit applications on March 16, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 CDC guidelines for social distancing. On March 19, 2020, we also notified our approved pistol purchase permit and concealed handgun permit applicants that we were mailing out their permits to them to reduce the number of customers entering our office.

Our staff have been working to implement procedures that will allow us to continue to process pistol purchase permits and concealed carry renewal permits without interruption. With the exception of fingerprinting services, new concealed handgun permit customers are also able to start the application process. Once the Stay at Home Order is lifted, we will contact customers to schedule appointments to be fingerprinted and complete their concealed handgun permit applications. All customers that had pending appointments were notified of the new process last night, as well as how to conveniently upload the necessary documentation so we can continue to process their applications. [Click here](#) for new procedures on concealed carry permits.

The pistol purchase application process is also available online and once the required documentation is uploaded, we will also process those applications. As of yesterday, there were 1,474 applications being processed. Additionally, there were over 2,000 applicants that had not come in to complete their application process. We notified those customers last night of the process to upload their documentation as well. [Click here](#) for new procedures on purchase permits.

Sheriff McFadden says; "I am committed to ensuring we continue to provide this service to the citizens of Mecklenburg County during this unprecedented crisis. By automating the pistol purchase and concealed handgun process further, we can continue providing the service while also protecting the public and my staff."

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