



Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MCSO Responds to Permitting Process Inquiries

(CHARLOTTE, NC) – The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) has received several inquiries about the permitting process and where it now stands. Our dedicated staff continues to work diligently to process all permit applications in accordance with state requirements. Almost 3,800 hours of overtime have been expended this fiscal year. MCSO has implemented several changes to the permitting process to be more efficient to include mailing permit(s) to customers to eliminate visits to the office; and utilizing a new interface to reduce duplicate entries for new applicants.

From October 22, 2022, to January 31, 2023, we have received 4,933 releases for approximately 110 days of releases from Veterans Affairs (VA). Since October 24, 2022, MCSO has processed over 6,200 applications to meet the demand and continues to work to process applications as soon as possible.

MCSO has found that not everyone discloses their military status on their application, so to be certain we are getting accurate information, the process is to check everyone through the same facilities. This process has been in place since 1996. The agency continues to wait on mental health facilities to return the releases needed to process applications, as there is no state requirement for these facilities to return the documents in a timely manner.

We could not be prouder of how hard our staff are working to process applications. They have worked during the holidays, significant hours of overtime, and have worked in the office throughout the pandemic to keep up with the demand. MCSO is committed to serving our customers as best we can, as we strive to process all permit applications in accordance with the state requirements.

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