



# Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

700 East Fourth Street  
Charlotte, NC 28202

T (704) 336-2543 • F (704) 336-6118

[www.mecksheriff.com](http://www.mecksheriff.com)

GARRY L. MCFADDEN  
SHERIFF

RODNEY M. COLLINS  
CHIEF DEPUTY SHERIFF

TELISA E. WHITE  
CHIEF OF DETENTION

## MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 29, 2023

**CONTACT:** Bradley Smith  
MCSO Public Information Office  
[Bradley.Smith@mecklenburgcountync.gov](mailto:Bradley.Smith@mecklenburgcountync.gov)  
O: (980) 314-5008

### Sheriff McFadden Responds to the passing of Senate Bill 41

**(CHARLOTTE, NC)** – As the elected Sheriff of Mecklenburg County, I feel compelled to address the passing of Senate Bill 41 (SB41). I am disappointed that the North Carolina General Assembly has decided to override Governor Cooper’s veto. As sheriff of one of the largest counties in the state I am also disappointed that several lawmakers never afforded me the privilege to voice my concerns about SB41. I fully support the second amendment, but I believe removing local sheriffs’ offices from the approval process puts our communities in danger for the sake of convenience. Although I may not agree with this decision, as Sheriff I will abide by all laws as I was elected to do.

I’d like to thank my staff for their hard work, dedication, and the countless hours they have put in to meet purchase permit demands. Their work has not gone unnoticed, and I appreciate all they have done and continue to do.

Effective immediately, anyone seeking to purchase or transfer a handgun in Mecklenburg County is no longer required to apply to the Mecklenburg County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO) for a pistol purchase permit.

Under North Carolina law, MCSO does not have the statutory authority to refund the \$5.00 application fee for permits that were being processed when the law was repealed. G.S. 14-404(e) requires the submission of a \$5.00 fee at the time of application and the law does not allow this fee to be refunded once the application has been submitted for processing.

SB41 eliminates the pistol purchase permit laws effective immediately regardless of any pending applications at the time of repeal. The bill did not provide a period for pending applications to either be approved or denied. Therefore, MCSO has ceased processing all pistol purchase permits, immediately.

The passing of SB41 does not have any impact on our state laws governing the application for and issuance of concealed handgun permits. MCSO will continue to process concealed handgun permit applications in the same manner as before.

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