



Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office and the 26th Judicial District to Hold an Active Shooter Exercise

(CHARLOTTE, NC) – On Friday, May 5, 2023, the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) along with Mecklenburg County Court Officials, will be holding 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 12:00 pm can do so at the Criminal Magistrates' Office at 801 East 4th Street, Charlotte, North Carolina 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 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. The training exercise will be held from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. 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.

MCSO is offering this exercise in keeping with best practices and to ensure the safety of judges, staff, and the public. 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 to 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 to 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.

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