

North Carolina Criminal Statutes: Harassing or Threatening Conduct

Statute	Persons covered	Prohibited conduct	Classification of crime
<p>G.S. 14-34.2 Assault with a firearm or other deadly weapon upon governmental officers or employees, company police officers, or campus police officers</p>	State or local government officer or employee (includes public health) & others named	Assaulting a state or local government officer or employee with a firearm or other deadly weapon while the officer/employee is performing official duties.	Class F felony
<p>G.S. 14-196 Using profane, indecent or threatening language to any person over telephone; annoying or harassing by repeated telephoning or making false statements over telephone</p>	Any person	<p>Telephonic communications, including calls or messages that threaten or harass, specifically including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calls or messages including threats to inflict bodily harm to a person or the person's family member; • Repeated calls for the purpose of abusing, annoying, threatening, terrifying, harassing, or embarrassing a person at the called number, whether or not a conversation ensues; • Calls or messages that make false statements concerning death, injury, illness, disfigurement, indecent conduct or criminal conduct of the person telephoned or the person's family member, with the intent to abuse, annoy, threaten, terrify, harass or embarrass. 	Class 2 misdemeanor
<p>G.S. 14-196.3 Cyberstalking</p>	Any person	<p>Cyberstalking: using e-mail or other electronic communication to threaten or harass, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications that threaten to inflict bodily harm to a person or the person's family member; • Communications that threaten damage to property; • Repeated communications for the purpose of abusing, annoying, threatening, terrifying, harassing, or embarrassing any person; • Communications that make false statements concerning death, injury, illness, disfigurement, 	Class 2 misdemeanor

		<p>indecent conduct or criminal conduct of the person telephoned or the person's family member, with the intent to abuse, annoy, threaten, terrify, harass or embarrass.</p> <p>There is an exception for "peaceable, nonviolent, or nonthreatening activity intended to express political views or to provide lawful information to others." There is also a provision stating that the law may not be construed "to impair any constitutionally protected activity, including speech, protest, or assembly."</p>	
<p><u>G.S. 14-277.1</u> Communicating threats</p>	Any person	<p>Communicating threats: willfully threatening to physically injure a person or that person's child, sibling, spouse, or dependent, or willfully threatening to damage a person's property. The threat must be communicated by any means (orally, in writing, etc.) and be such that a reasonable person would believe the threat is likely to be carried out. In addition, the person threatened must believe the threat will be carried out.</p>	Class 1 misdemeanor
<p><u>G.S. 14-277.3A</u> Stalking</p>	Any person	<p>Stalking: willfully and on more than one occasion harassing another person without legal purpose, or willfully engaging in a course of conduct without legal purpose, when the defendant knows or should know that the harassment or course of conduct would cause a reasonable person to either: (1) fear for their safety or the safety of their immediate family or close personal associates; or (2) suffer substantial emotional distress as a result of being placed in fear of death, bodily injury, or continued harassment.</p>	<p>First offense: Class A1 misdemeanor Subsequent offense: Class F felony If offense is committed when a court order is in place to prohibit the behavior, it is a Class H felony.</p>