

# OPEN MEETINGS

**and Local Governments  
in North Carolina:  
Some Questions and Answers**

Eighth Edition 2017

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# Preface

Earlier editions of this book were published in 1976, 1979, 1986, 1991, 1994, 1998, 2002, and 2008. This edition incorporates legislative changes and judicial interpretations through 2016. As with the earlier editions, this book is intended for lawyers as well as members of local government governing boards, local government administrators, reporters, citizens, and others who deal on a recurring basis with the state's open meetings statute. It discusses the statute through a series of questions and short answers, with no attempt at extended argument or analysis. This edition also includes related content regarding meetings, hearings, and public comment periods. In addition, it provides a basic overview of the law, which covers many of the most commonly asked questions, and includes a quick-reference guide to closed sessions. Previous editions of this publication were written by David Lawrence, whose authoritative work in the field spans decades, and whose analysis has several times been adopted in cases decided by the North Carolina appellate courts.

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