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State v. Vance, 328 N.C. 613, 617 (1991) ("The 'common law' referred to in N.C.G.S. § 4–1 is the common law of England as of the date of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.").

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State v. Pearson, 288 N.C. 34, 39 (1975) ("where the attack is made with murderous intent (i.e., deadly force), the person attacked is under no obligation to retreat"); see also State v. Mize, 316 N.C. 48, 52 (1986) ("Murderous intent means the intent to kill or inflict serious bodily harm.").

State v. Mize, 316 N.C. 48, 52 (1986) (An aggressor with murderous intent forfeits all right to use defensive force. If he kills during the affray, he is guilty of murder.).

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State v. Harvey, 372 N.C. 304, 308, (2019) (doctrine of imperfect self-defense applies when the defendant reasonably believed it was necessary to kill, but he was the aggressor or used excessive force, in which case the defendant would be guilty of voluntary manslaughter).

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State v. Robertson, 166 N.C. 356, 364 (1914) (aggressor is obliged to retreat); see also State v. Garland, 138 N.C. 675, 678 (1905); cf. State v. Kennedy, 169 N.C. 326, __ (1915) (required to abandon the combat).

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State v. Blue, 356 N.C. 79, 86–87 (2002) (re common law defense of habitation); see also State v. Miller, 267 N.C. 409, 411 (1966); State v. Gray, 162 N.C. 608, 610–11 (1913).

State v. Pearson, 288 N.C. 34, 40 (1975) (no duty to retreat in the home); see also State v. Johnson, 261 N.C. 727, 729–30 (1964); State v. Frizzelle, 243 N.C. 49 (1955).

State v. McCombs, 297 N.C. 151, 157 (1979) (common law defense of habitation includes proportionality requirement); but see State v. Phillips, 290 N.C. App. 660, 662 (2023) (holding, under G.S. 14-51.2, "excessive force is not prohibited"), temp. stay allowed, 892 N.C. 618 (2023).

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State v. Benton, 299 N.C. 16, 18 (1980) (aggressor cannot invoke doctrine of self-defense unless he first abandons the fight and withdraws from it and gives notice to his adversary); see also State v. Marsh, 293 N.C. 353, 354 (1977); State v. Watkins, 283 N.C. 504, 511 (1973).

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State v. Cook, 254 N.C. App. 150 (2017) (a person under attack of deadly force is not permitted to defend himself by firing a warning shot), aff'd per curiam, 370 N.C. 506 (2018).