



# **NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNICABLE DISEASE LAW**

**JILL D. MOORE**

**2017**

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# Preface

This book provides an introduction to the law of communicable disease control in North Carolina. It is divided into two parts. Part 1 addresses the core topics in the legal structure for communicable disease control: detecting communicable disease in the population through surveillance and disease reporting laws, investigating communicable disease cases and outbreaks, controlling communicable disease, enforcing communicable disease laws using public health legal remedies, and the interaction of confidentiality laws with public health agencies' communicable disease control activities. Part 2 takes a more in-depth look at three special topics. The first two— isolation and quarantine authorities and bloodborne pathogen exposures— represent specialized communicable disease control measures that deserve deeper attention than they receive in the general chapter on controlling communicable disease. The third topic, public health and bioterrorism, describes laws that would operate in tandem with communicable disease laws in the event of bioterrorism involving a communicable disease agent.

As the title indicates, the book is intended to be an overview of key topics. It does not attempt to cover every subtopic or answer every question that may arise. The book is supplemented by materials on my North Carolina public health law website, [ncphlaw.unc.edu](http://ncphlaw.unc.edu). Follow the link to “Legal Information by Topic” and select the topic “Communicable Disease Control” for links to blog posts, bulletins, and frequently asked questions about some of the topics in this book.

This work has benefitted tremendously from many years of close work with North Carolina state and local public health officials and attorneys. The constant contact between the SOG and the public officials we serve is a pleasure and an honor, and it makes my work better. I am especially grateful to Chris Hoke and John Barkley, who helped me understand the history and practical context of the issues underlying the statutory framework for

public health law, and to my SOG colleague Aimee Wall, who has been my sounding board on more occasions than I can count. I am fortunate to have such talented individuals as colleagues and friends.

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## Chapter 6

# Isolation and Quarantine

Isolation and quarantine are legal tools the public health system uses to control the spread of communicable diseases and conditions. The use of these tools in North Carolina is not extraordinary. Isolation and quarantine are used on a regular basis to control the spread of endemic diseases such as tuberculosis, as well as to cope with more unusual outbreaks, such as the measles outbreak the state experienced in 2013<sup>1</sup> or the pertussis (whooping cough) outbreaks that occasionally affect North Carolina schools. On rare occasions, the isolation and quarantine authorities have been used to control a more unusual event, such as the SARS case the state experienced in 2003.<sup>2</sup> Public health officials need to be aware of their authority to isolate and quarantine, and they need to know how to exercise the authority within the limits of the law.

### Definition of Isolation and Quarantine

The terms “isolation” and “quarantine” are often used in conjunction, and they do have common elements. Both are communicable disease control measures—that is, they are means of preventing or containing the spread of disease. In general, medical and public health professionals use the term isolation to refer to disease control measures applied to people who are infected with a disease. The term quarantine generally refers to control measures applied to people who appear well but may nevertheless pose a

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1. Kristin Sullivan, Zack S. Moore, & Aaron T. Fleischauer, *Notes from the Field: Measles Outbreak Associated with a Traveler Returning from India—North Carolina, April–May 2013*, MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT, Sept. 13, 2013, [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6236a6.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6236a6.htm).

2. N.C. Division of Public Health, *SARS in North Carolina in 2003*, <http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/sars/SARSinNorthCarolina2003.pdf> (on file with author).

risk of disease to others—usually because they have been exposed to an ill person.

North Carolina’s legal definitions of isolation and quarantine include but go beyond these general definitions. In North Carolina, “isolation authority” is the authority to limit the freedom of movement or freedom of action of a person or animal that has (or is suspected of having) a communicable disease or condition.<sup>3</sup> The definition of quarantine authority has three parts. It most often refers to the authority to limit the freedom of movement or action of a person or animal that has been exposed (or is suspected of having been exposed) to a communicable disease or condition. However, it also means the authority to limit access by any person or animal to an area or facility that is contaminated with an infectious agent. Quarantine authority also may be used to limit the freedom of movement or action of unimmunized persons during an outbreak.<sup>4</sup> For example, in the event of a measles outbreak, quarantine authority could be used to require children who are exempt from the state’s immunization requirements to stay home from school.<sup>5</sup>

Both the isolation and quarantine authorities permit the limitation of a person’s *freedom of movement* or *freedom of action*. The definition of quarantine also authorizes limits on *freedom of access*. No law defines these terms, but several other laws make important distinctions between orders that limit freedom of action and orders that limit freedom of movement or

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3. N.C. GEN. STAT. (hereinafter G.S.) § 130A-2(3a).

4. G.S. 130A-2(7a). The term “quarantine” is also used to describe the local health director’s authority to declare an area “under quarantine against rabies” when there is a rabies outbreak extensive enough to endanger the lives of humans. G.S. 130A-194. This book does not address rabies quarantines. For information about rabies quarantines, see Aimee N. Wall, *An Overview of North Carolina’s Rabies Control Laws*, LOCAL GOV’T L. BULL. No. 125 (Oct. 2011), <http://sogpubs.unc.edu/electronicversions/pdfs/lglb125.pdf>.

5. All children in North Carolina are required to be immunized against certain diseases, including measles. G.S. 130A-152. The complete list of required immunizations is in the North Carolina Administrative Code. N.C. ADMIN. CODE (hereinafter N.C.A.C.) tit. 10A, ch. 41A, § .0401. Children who have not received the immunizations may not attend public or private day care centers or schools. G.S. 130A-155. However, a child may be exempt from the requirements if an immunization is medically contraindicated, G.S. 130A-156, 10A N.C.A.C. 41A .0404, or if the child’s parent has a bona fide religious objection to immunization, G.S. 130A-157, 10A N.C.A.C. 41A .0403.

access. For example, Section 130A-145 of the North Carolina General Statutes (hereinafter G.S.), the main isolation and quarantine statute, provides specific procedures for a person to obtain judicial review of an isolation or quarantine order—but only if it is an order limiting freedom of movement or access. It is therefore important to understand the ways in which the limitations differ:

- An order limiting *freedom of movement* essentially prohibits an individual from going somewhere. It may confine the person to a particular place, such as his or her home or a health care facility. Or it may prohibit the person from going to a particular place. For example, it may prevent a person from returning to school or work during the period of communicability.
- An order limiting *freedom of action* affects specific behaviors but not the ability to move freely in society. For example, a person who is required to refrain from sexual activity during the course of treatment for gonorrhea has had his or her freedom of action restricted.
- An order limiting *freedom of access* prohibits a person from obtaining access to a certain place. For example, a quarantine order could be issued to prohibit a person from entering an area where infected people are being treated during an outbreak.

The use of these terms in North Carolina's statutory definitions also means that, in this state, an isolation or quarantine order does not necessarily require a person to be physically separated from the public. Rather, it directs the individual to comply with communicable disease control measures, which vary by disease and which may constitute limitations on freedom of movement, action, or access. For example, the control measures for a person with rubella (German measles) require the person to be isolated for seven days after the onset of the rash.<sup>6</sup> In contrast, the control measures for a person with HIV do not require physical separation from society but instead affect the individual's behavior.<sup>7</sup> Among other things,

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6. H. McLean et al., *Rubella*, Ch. 14 in *MANUAL FOR THE SURVEILLANCE OF VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES* (Apr. 1, 2014), [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/surv-manual/chpt14-rubella.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/surv-manual/chpt14-rubella.html).

7. North Carolina law specifically prohibits public health officials from requiring a person with HIV to remain at home or otherwise be physically separated from

a person with HIV must notify sexual partners of his HIV status and must refrain from donating blood or sharing needles.<sup>8</sup> However, an order directing a person to comply with control measures for either condition is called an “isolation order.” Similarly, an order directing a person who has been exposed to a communicable disease but is not yet sick is called a “quarantine order,” whether it requires the person’s physical separation from the public or simply directs the person to take (or refrain from taking) specific actions.

## Ordering Isolation or Quarantine

### Authority to Order Isolation or Quarantine

North Carolina law permits either the state health director or a local health director to order isolation or quarantine.<sup>9</sup> This authority may be delegated to another public official or employee.<sup>10</sup> Isolation or quarantine orders are permitted only (1) when and for so long as the public health is endangered, (2) when all other reasonable means for correcting the problem have been exhausted, and (3) when no less restrictive alternative exists.<sup>11</sup>

There is no law in North Carolina that interprets the phrase “all other reasonable means.” The plain words of the statute make clear that, if there are reasonable means of controlling the public health threat short of issuing an isolation or quarantine order, those means should be tried first. But what constitutes reasonable means? The word “reasonable” could be interpreted to mean at least a couple of different things. It almost certainly should be

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the general public. 10A N.C.A.C. 41A.0201(d) provides that isolation or quarantine orders for HIV may be no more restrictive than the control measures established in the North Carolina Administrative Code. The control measures for HIV do not include physical isolation. *See* 10A N.C.A.C. 41A .0202.

8. 10A N.C.A.C. 41A .0202.

9. G.S. 130A-145(a).

10. G.S. 130A-6. The statute states that a public official granted authority under G.S. Chapter 130A may delegate that authority to “another person authorized by the public official.” Because isolation and quarantine are exercises of the state’s police power, such a delegation should be made to another public official, not to a private person or entity. As part of their planning for responding to public health emergencies, local health directors in North Carolina have been strongly encouraged to designate health department staff members who are authorized to exercise the isolation or quarantine authority in the event the health director is unavailable.

11. G.S. 130A-145(a).



interpreted to mean that the only other methods that must be tried are those that are likely to be effective at controlling the public health threat. (In some cases there may be no other means believed to be effective.) It could also be interpreted to mean that public health officials need not try means that might be effective but that are unduly expensive or burdensome compared to isolation or quarantine.

Similarly, there is no law in North Carolina that interprets the phrase “less restrictive alternative.” Assuming other reasonable means have been exhausted, when is isolation or quarantine the least restrictive alternative? There is no case law on this in North Carolina. Some other jurisdictions have addressed a similar issue—the involuntary civil confinement of individuals with tuberculosis—and have reached conclusions about when involuntary confinement of individuals with communicable disease is appropriate. Among other things, they have concluded the following:

- Involuntary confinement is not justified unless the person poses an actual danger to others. Even then, it should not be ordered if there is something else that could protect the public as effectively (such as directly observed therapy).<sup>12</sup>
- A person may be confined when he or she demonstrates unwillingness or inability to comply with less restrictive measures.<sup>13</sup>

Many public health scholars have viewed the confinement cases as instructive for isolation and quarantine cases.<sup>14</sup> However, in September 2016, a federal district court suggested that quarantine may require a different

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12. See, e.g., *City of Newark v. J.S.*, 652 A.2d 265, 271, 278–79 (N.J. 1993). “Directly observed therapy” is defined in North Carolina law as “the actual observation of medication ingestion by a health care worker.” 10A N.C.A.C. 41A .0205(g).

13. See, e.g., *City of New York City v. Doe*, 614 N.Y.S.2d 8 (App. Div. 1994) (confinement in hospital for treatment of tuberculosis upheld when the evidence showed that the patient had a history of refusing to cooperate with directly observed therapy).

14. See, e.g., LAWRENCE O. GOSTIN, *PUBLIC HEALTH LAW: POWER, DUTY, RESTRAINT* 444 (2d ed.) (“Although modern cases often concern civil commitment of the mentally ill, they should also apply to isolation and quarantine.”); Wendy Parmet, *Ebola Quarantines: Remembering Less Restrictive Alternatives*, HARVARD L. BILL OF HEALTH BLOG (Oct. 26, 2014) (noting the scant case law on quarantine and relying on tuberculosis civil confinement cases to conclude that detention is permissible “only upon a showing that the patient has been non-compliant with less restrictive approaches”).

type of analysis. In *Hickox v. Christie*,<sup>15</sup> the plaintiff was a nurse who had treated Ebola patients in Sierra Leone during the epidemic of 2014–2016. When she returned to the United States, she was quarantined and confined in an isolation tent outside a hospital while her health was monitored. The nurse subsequently brought an action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, arguing that her constitutional rights were violated by the state officials who confined her. To make her case, the plaintiff needed to demonstrate that the state officials violated clearly established law. The court first reviewed prior cases specifically addressing quarantine, and it concluded that this body of law clearly establishes that quarantine is *not* unconstitutional—on the contrary, it is a valid exercise of the state’s police power, so long as it is not unreasonable or arbitrary.<sup>16</sup> The court then considered the plaintiff’s argument that civil commitment case law put the defendants on notice that their conduct violated clearly established law. It described the analogy to civil commitment law as “highly problematic,”<sup>17</sup> and its misgivings probably foreshadowed its ultimate conclusion that the civil commitment law did not create a clearly established constitutional right that the defendants violated.<sup>18</sup> Nevertheless, it considered the plaintiff’s arguments, including the assertion that quarantine should not be used unless it is the least restrictive means available to protect the public health. The court concluded that “[t]he theoretical availability of less restrictive alternatives does not mean that they are appropriate for a particular individual” and that deference to public health officials was appropriate.<sup>19</sup>

If a North Carolina court were called upon to determine when isolation or quarantine is the least restrictive alternative, it is likely that the court would consider other courts’ conclusions about what that means. At present, however, those other courts’ conclusions offer different paths,

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15. \_\_\_ F. Supp. 3d \_\_\_, No. 15-7647, 2016 WL 4744181 (D.N.J. Sept. 2, 2016).

16. *Id.* at \*10. The court appeared open to a different conclusion if different facts suggested that quarantine was not warranted, but found that the facts of this case “do not suggest arbitrariness or unreasonableness as recognized in the prior cases—i.e., application of the quarantine laws to a person (or, more commonly, vast numbers of persons) who had no exposure to disease at all.” *Id.*

17. *Id.* at \*10.

18. *Id.* at \*18.

19. *Id.* at \*15 (concluding that the determination is a judgment call, and that the decision to confine the plaintiff in this case was one a reasonable public health official could have reached, even if it “could be criticized, or portrayed as erroneous”).

with the recent federal court decision in the Ebola quarantine case being significantly more deferential to public health officials' judgments.

### **Decision to Order Isolation or Quarantine**

Individuals in North Carolina are legally obliged to comply with communicable disease control measures regardless of whether an isolation or quarantine order has been issued to them.<sup>20</sup> Failure to comply is a misdemeanor.<sup>21</sup> Still, health directors often issue isolation or quarantine orders to ensure that a person who is subject to communicable disease control measures is aware of the measures and of the legal obligation to comply. It is also common for a health director to issue an isolation or quarantine order to an individual who is not complying with control measures, as part of an effort to gain compliance.

The authority to order isolation or quarantine is not limited to reportable diseases or conditions. However, for the isolation or quarantine authority to be available, the illness must satisfy the statutory definition of "communicable disease" or "communicable condition."

### **How Isolation or Quarantine Is Ordered**

There is no North Carolina statute or rule that sets forth specific steps to follow in ordering isolation or quarantine of a person. However, by considering all the various laws together, it is possible to reach a few conclusions about how to proceed:

1. A local health director or the state health director should ensure that he or she is authorized to exercise isolation or quarantine authority in the particular situation, as follows:
  - If the person is to be isolated, he or she must be infected or reasonably suspected of being infected with a communicable disease or condition.
  - If the person is to be quarantined, he or she must meet the statutory conditions for quarantine, which usually means that he or she has been exposed or is reasonably suspected

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20. G.S. 130A-144(f).

21. G.S. 130A-25.

of having been exposed to a communicable disease or condition.<sup>22</sup>

- The public health must be endangered as a result.
- All other reasonable means for controlling the disease must have been exhausted.
- There must be no less restrictive means to protect the public health.

2. The local or state health director must determine which of the following communicable disease control measures the recipient of the order will be subject to:

- Control measures for HIV, hepatitis B, sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, smallpox/vaccinia disease, SARS, and hepatitis C, published in the North Carolina Administrative Code.<sup>23</sup>
- Control measures for other diseases, derived from recommendations and guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). If there are no CDC guidelines on point, control measures are derived from the American Public Health Association's *Control of Communicable Diseases Manual*. A public health official may also devise control measures if necessary, in accordance with principles set out in a state rule.<sup>24</sup>

3. The local or state health director must communicate to the person that he or she is being placed under an isolation or quarantine order. Although the law does not state that an isolation or quarantine order must be in writing, it would be unwise to rely solely on an oral order. However, it may be reasonable in some

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22. This applies to the most typical situation in which isolation or quarantine is ordered, but quarantine may also be ordered for two additional reasons: to limit access to an area or facility that may be contaminated by an infectious agent or to limit the freedom of movement of unimmunized persons in an outbreak. See G.S. 130A-2(7a).

23. 10A N.C.A.C. 41A .0202 (HIV), .0203 (hepatitis B), .0204 (sexually transmitted diseases), .0205 (tuberculosis), .0208 (smallpox and vaccinia disease), .0213 (SARS), .0214 (hepatitis C).

24. 10 N.C.A.C. 41A .0201(a).

circumstances to issue an oral order and then follow it with a written order as soon as practicable.

4. An isolation or quarantine order should include the following:

- The name of the person who is subject to the order
- The names of the health department and the health director issuing the order
- A statement of the required communicable disease control measures
- A statement that the control measures have been explained to the person
- If the order limits the person's freedom of movement or freedom of access, a statement that the person has a right to have a court review the order
- A statement describing the penalties that may be imposed if the person fails to comply with the order<sup>25</sup>
- The signature of the health director or official with delegated authority who issued the order
- The date and time the order was issued

The North Carolina Division of Public Health often provides template isolation and quarantine orders during an outbreak. For example, during the SARS outbreak of 2003, the division sent template orders to all local health directors by email. Template orders that may be used in the event of a flu pandemic have been developed and are available on the Internet.<sup>26</sup>

## **Duration of Isolation or Quarantine Orders**

### ***Public Health Official's Order***

The basic limitation on the duration of an isolation or quarantine order is contained in G.S. 130A-145(a), which states that isolation and quarantine may be ordered only when *and for so long as* the public health is endangered. The period of time is therefore likely to vary depending upon the communicable disease or condition and possibly other circumstances.

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25. 10A N.C.A.C. 41A .0201(d).

26. The documents are part of the North Carolina Pandemic Influenza Plan. The plan is available at <http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/flu/plan.html>. The template orders are in Appendix L.

There is no maximum time limit for orders limiting *freedom of action*, other than the statute's requirement that the orders end when the public health is no longer endangered. For example, an order directing a person with HIV to refrain from donating blood could be in place for years,<sup>27</sup> while an order directing a person with a suspected low-risk exposure to the Ebola virus to participate in symptom monitoring would last only for the incubation period of the virus (presently recognized to be 21 days following the last exposure).<sup>28</sup>

Orders limiting *freedom of movement* or *freedom of access* are subject to a statutory maximum period of 30 days.<sup>29</sup> This is *in addition to* the requirement that the order last only for so long as the public health is endangered. As previously noted, an order limiting freedom of movement or access might be for less than 30 days—if, for example, it was a quarantine order issued to a person exposed to a disease with an incubation period of 21 days—but it may never exceed 30 days, even if the person is still a threat to the public health at the end of that period. As discussed below, however, a health director may petition a superior court to extend an order.

### ***Petitions to Extend an Order beyond 30 Days***

In some instances, the state health director or a local health director may determine that a person's freedom of movement must be restricted for more than 30 days in order to protect the public health. However, the health director does not have the authority to extend the initial order or to issue a second order to the same individual for the same communicable disease event. Instead, the director may petition a superior court to extend the order. Ordinarily, this action is instituted in the superior court in the county in which the limitation on freedom of movement was imposed. However, if the individual who is the subject of the order has already sought review of the order in Wake County superior court (see the next section on due process rights), then the action must be instituted in Wake County.<sup>30</sup>

The health director has the burden of producing sufficient evidence to support the extension. If the court determines by a preponderance of the evidence that the limitation on freedom of movement is reasonably neces-

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27. 10A N.C.A.C. 41A .0202(a)(3) establishes this control measure.

28. See [www.apha.org/~media/files/pdfs/pubs/ccdm\\_ebola.ashx](http://www.apha.org/~media/files/pdfs/pubs/ccdm_ebola.ashx).

29. G.S. 130A-145(d).

30. *Id.*

sary to prevent or limit the spread of the disease or condition, the court shall continue the limitation for a period of up to 30 days for any communicable disease or condition but tuberculosis. For tuberculosis, the court may extend the order for up to one year.

When necessary, the health director may return to court and ask the court to continue a limitation for additional periods of up to 30 days each (or up to one year each if the person has tuberculosis).

### **Due Process Rights of Isolated or Quarantined Persons**

North Carolina law explains specifically how a person who is substantially affected by a limitation on freedom of movement or access may obtain a review of the order.<sup>31</sup> The person may institute an action in superior court seeking review of the limitation, and the court must respond by conducting a hearing within 72 hours (excluding Saturdays and Sundays). The person is entitled to an attorney. If he or she is indigent, a court-appointed attorney must be provided.

The court must terminate or reduce the limitation if it determines by a preponderance of the evidence that the limitation is not reasonably necessary to prevent or limit the spread of the disease or condition. The burden of producing sufficient evidence to show that the limitation is not reasonably necessary is on the person affected by the order. The person has a choice of where to file this action: either in the superior court of the county where the limitation is imposed or in the Wake County superior court.

A person who is subject to a limitation on freedom of action has a right to due process, which includes the opportunity for his or her objections to the order to be heard. However, North Carolina law does not spell out how a person subject to this kind of limitation may exercise this right. Most likely, the person would file an action in superior court seeking a declaratory judgment about the validity of the order, or the person would seek an injunction barring enforcement of the order.

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31. *Id.* The statute does not define the term *substantially affected person*. It seems clear that the person who is the subject of the order would be a substantially affected person, but whether the term might include others is an open question.





## Appendix 4

# Selected Internet Sites Addressing Communicable Disease Control

### University of North Carolina Resources

**UNC School of Government North Carolina Public Health Law Microsite**  
[ncphlaw.unc.edu](http://ncphlaw.unc.edu)

The North Carolina Public Health Law microsite contains legal information by topic (including communicable disease control law), legislative updates, and information about North Carolina-specific public health law training opportunities. It was designed for people who work with the North Carolina public health system, but it is publicly available for anyone seeking information about North Carolina public health law.

**Coates' Canons Local Government Law Blog**

<http://canons.sog.unc.edu/>

More than a dozen faculty members contribute to the School of Government's local government law blog, which is updated two to three times weekly with posts on various legal issues of interest to local government. Posts about communicable disease law can be found by using a keyword search or clicking on the public health topic link.

**North Carolina Institute for Public Health (NCIPH) Training Website**

<https://nciph.sph.unc.edu/tws/index.php>

NCIPH is part of the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. Its training website offers several brief modules about topics in public health, including modules addressing infectious disease epidemiology, public health preparedness, and communicable disease law.

## **North Carolina Government Resources**

### **NC Division of Public Health, Epidemiology Section, Communicable Disease Branch**

<http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/>

This website includes information and North Carolina-specific data about communicable diseases, as well as the activities of the state communicable disease branch and local health departments. It also includes links to the state's communicable disease manuals and to related programs, such as the state laboratory of public health.

Direct link to NC communicable disease manuals: <http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/lhds/manuals/cd/toc.html>.

### **North Carolina General Assembly**

[www.ncleg.net](http://www.ncleg.net)

Information about proposed and enacted North Carolina legislation can be found on this site, along with an unofficial version of the state statutes.

#### **Direct link to the North Carolina General Statutes:**

[www.ncleg.net/gascripts/statutes/Statutes.asp](http://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/statutes/Statutes.asp)

### **North Carolina Administrative Code**

<http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac.asp>

The North Carolina Administrative Code compiles the state's administrative rules. Most of the state's communicable disease rules may be found in Title 10A, Chapter 41, Subchapter A.

## **Federal Government Resources**

### **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

The CDC is the federal government agency that is responsible for tracking, investigating, and researching public health issues and trends. It is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The agency's website has detailed information about diseases and conditions, including the guidance documents and recommended actions that form the basis for required communicable disease control measures in North Carolina.

**CDC Public Health Law Program**

<https://www.cdc.gov/phlp/>

The CDC Public Health Law Program website has publications and other resources for public health practitioners and their attorneys.

**Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA),  
Bloodborne Pathogens and Needlestick Prevention**

<https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/bloodbornepathogens/>

This website provides guidance documents, FAQs, and other information from OSHA about bloodborne pathogens and the associated federal rules.

**Other Resources****Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO)**

[www.astho.org/](http://www.astho.org/)

ASTHO is a nonprofit organization that represents and serves U.S. state and territorial public health agencies and their employees. It has a program on infectious disease that provides resources and information on public health infrastructure for disease control, as well as other more specific topics.

**Direct link to the infectious disease program:**

[www.astho.org/Programs/Infectious-Disease/](http://www.astho.org/Programs/Infectious-Disease/)

**Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE)**

CSTE is a professional organization devoted to advancing public health policy and epidemiologic capacity. It has an infectious disease steering committee that works to facilitate prevention, detection, investigation, and control of infectious diseases.

Direct link to the infectious disease task force's information and resources:

<http://www.cste.org/group/IDOV>

**National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)**

[www.naccho.org/](http://www.naccho.org/)

NACCHO's members come from local health departments across the United States. The organization promotes public health while adhering to a set of core values, including equity, excellence, leadership, and science.

Its website includes a “toolbox” with information and resources in a number of public health areas, plus a model practices database.

**Network for Public Health Law**

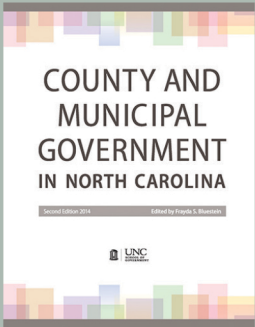
<https://www.networkforphl.org/>

The Network for Public Health Law is made up of public health practitioners and attorneys. Its website contains legal information and policy resources. Information that is relevant to communicable disease control is included in the topic of emergency legal preparedness and response.

# NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNICABLE DISEASE LAW

Preventing and controlling the spread of communicable disease is one of the core activities of public health systems. Law provides part of the infrastructure that allows public health systems to detect and respond to communicable diseases and conditions. This book provides an introduction to the laws that support communicable disease control activities in North Carolina.

## RECOMMENDED PUBLICATION

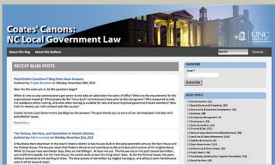


*County and Municipal Government in North Carolina*  
Chapter 38: Public Health  
Second Edition, 2014  
Jill D. Moore

**Jill D. Moore** is a School of Government faculty member who specializes in public health law.



## OTHER RESOURCES



*Coates' Canons: NC Local Government Law Blog*  
[canons.sog.unc.edu](http://canons.sog.unc.edu)



*North Carolina Public Health Law*  
[ncphlaw.unc.edu](http://ncphlaw.unc.edu)

## ORDER ONLINE

[sog.unc.edu](http://sog.unc.edu)  
Contact the bookstore:  
[sales@sog.unc.edu](mailto:sales@sog.unc.edu) or 919.966.4119



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