

Before 2011

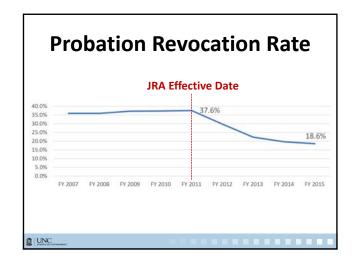
 A court could revoke probation for any violation of probation

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2011: Justice Reinvestment

- Court may revoke only for new crimes and absconding
- Confinement in Response to Violation (CRV) up to 90 days permissible for all other violations
- Revocation permissible for any violation after two CRVs





2011 to 2015

CRV is a poor fit for misdemeanors
 Most CRVs are Terminal CRVs

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2015 Amendments

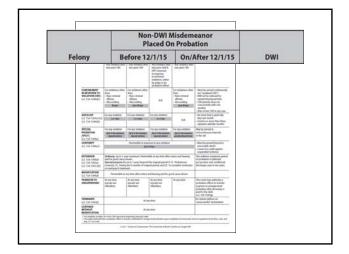
- CRV repealed for misdemeanants placed on probation after 12/1/2015
- Revocation permissible for any violation after two Quick Dips (which may be imposed by judge or by probation officer)

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Eligibility for Revocation

- New crimes & absconding
 - Any probationer: Upon first violation
- Technical violations
 - -Felony: Two prior CRVs (90 days)
 - -**DWI:** Two prior CRVs (up to 90 days)
 - **Pre-12/1/15 Misd**: Two prior CRVs (up to 90 days)
 - -Post-12/1/15 Misd: Two prior Quick Dips (2-3 days, imposed by judge or probation officer)





New criminal offense

- "Commit no criminal offense in any jurisdiction"
 - Conviction for new offense
 - Independent findings of criminal offense at probation violation hearing
- No revocation solely for Class 3 misdemeanor

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Absconding

"Not abscond by willfully avoiding supervision or by willfully making the defendant's whereabouts unknown to the supervising probation officer, if the defendant is placed on supervised probation."

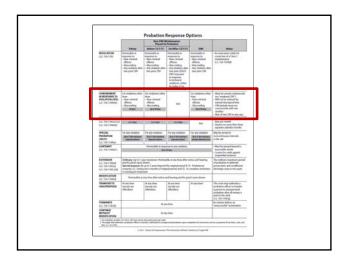
G.S. 15A-1343(b)(3a)

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Absconding

- More than merely failing to report
- More than merely failing to remain within the jurisdiction
- Facts supporting absconding:
 - $\, \mathsf{Long}$ absence from residence
 - Repeated attempts by officer to contact
 - Probationer knows officer is looking for him or her and still doesn't respond





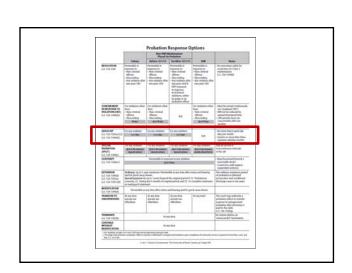
Confinement in Response to Violation (CRV)

- Permissible in response to violations other than "commit no criminal offense" and "absconding"
- Length:
 - Pre-12/1/15 misdemeanor: Up to 90 days
 - DWI: Up to 90 daysFelony: 90 days

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CRV (cont.)

- Must be continuous period (no "weekend CRV")
- Must be to proper place of confinement
 - SMCP for DWI
 - Local jail or SMCP for misdemeanors
 - DACJJ for felonies
 - Not DART-Cherry or Black Mountain
- CRV periods ordered in multiple probation cases must run concurrently



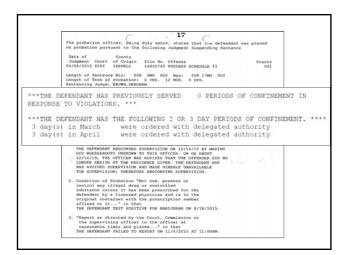


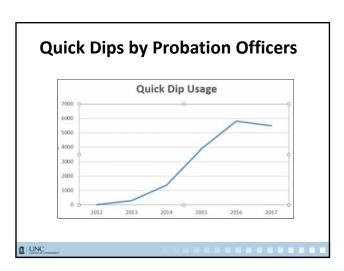
Quick Dips

- 2-3 days of jail confinement
 - No more than 6 days per month
 - Used in no more than three separate calendar months of probation
 - Not permissible in DWI cases
- Quick Dips may be imposed by judge or by probation officer through "delegated authority"

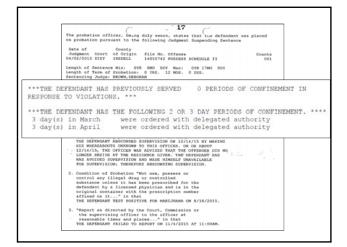
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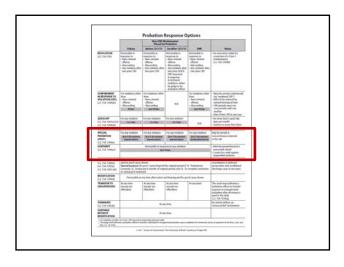
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A defendant was placed on probation for Communicating Threats in 2017. He has a 60-day suspended sentence. The defendant admits to two violations (there are no prior violations):

- Failure to report to the probation officer
- Positive drug screen

Which responses are permissible?

- **X**Revocation?
- XCRV?
- √Quick dip?
- √Split?

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A defendant was placed on probation for DWI in 2017. The officer alleges the following violation.

- Of the conditions of probation imposed in that judgment, the defendant has willfully violated:

 1. Condition of Probation "Commit no criminal offense in any Jurisdiction" in that

 THE DEFENDANT HAS THE FOLLOWING PENDING CHARGES:

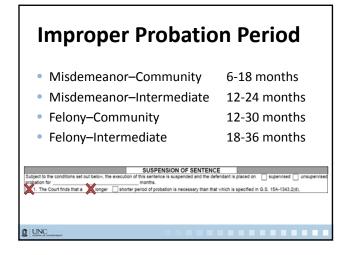
 ON 10/13/17 THE DEFENDANT WAS CHARGED WITH POSSESSION OF FIREARM
 BY FELON IN 17CRS705617 IN SAMPSON COUNTY, IF THE DEFENDANT IS
 CONVICTED OF THIS CHARGE IT WILL BE A VIOLATION OF HIS CURRENT PROBATION.

Which responses are permissible?

- ✓ Revocation?
- **XCRV?**
- XQuick dip?
- √Split?



Some Recurrent Issues



Extending Probation

Two types: ordinary and special purpose

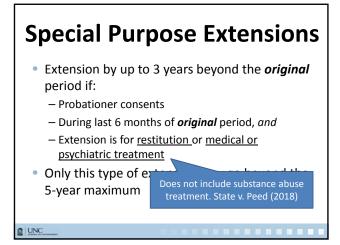
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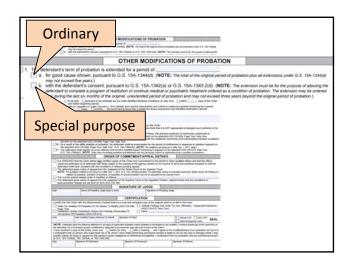
Ordinary Extensions

- At any time prior to expiration, for good cause shown, the court may extend probation to the 5-year maximum
 - No violation required
 - Could happen multiple times
 - By policy, Probation no longer seeks extensions out of court

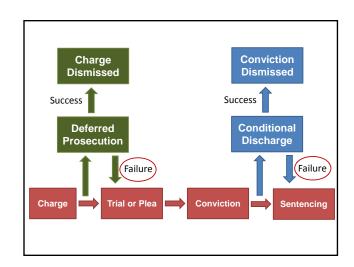
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Violations in Diversion Cases • Deferred prosecution • Conditional discharge





"Revocation" in Diversion Cases

- Deferred prosecution
 - G.S. 15A-1344(d). If a probationer violates a condition of probation . . . the court . . . may order that charges as to which prosecution has been deferred be brought to trial.

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"Revocation" in Diversion Cases

- Conditional Discharge
 - G.S. 15A-1341(a6). Upon violation of a term or condition of a conditional discharge granted pursuant to this section, the court may enter an adjudication of guilt and proceed as otherwise provided.
 - G.S. 90-96(a). Upon violation of a term or condition, the court may enter an adjudication of guilt and proceed as otherwise provided.

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Violations in Diversion Cases

- But... in general, violation hearings in diversion cases follow ordinary probation violation rules
- "In the absence of a provision to the contrary, and except where specifically excluded, the general probation provisions found in Article 82 of Chapter 15A apply to probation imposed under G.S. 90-96." State v. Burns, 171 N.C. App. 759 (2005).

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Violations in Diversion Cases

- Distinctions
 - Two-year maximum probation period
 - No confinement-based sanctions
 - Best to return to district of origin



The Limbo Problem

 "Upon violation of a term or condition of a conditional discharge granted pursuant to this section, the court may enter an adjudication of guilt and proceed as otherwise provided. Upon fulfillment of the terms and conditions of a conditional discharge granted pursuant to this section, any plea or finding of guilty previously entered shall be withdrawn and the court shall discharge the person and dismiss the proceedings against the person."

- G.S. 15A-1341(a6)

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The Limbo Problem

"Immunity from Prosecution upon
Compliance. Upon the expiration or early
termination as provided in subsection (b) of a
period of probation imposed after deferral of
prosecution and before conviction or a
conditional discharge, the defendant shall be
immune from prosecution of the charges
deferred or discharged and dismissed."

- G.S. 15A-1342(i)

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Class H and I Felonies

- For felonies pled in district court, violation hearings are, by default, in superior court
- May be held in district court with the consent of the State and the defendant
- If held in district court, appeal is to superior court. State v. Hooper, 358 N.C. 122 (2004)

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Willfulness

 No imprisonment if defendant shows nonpayment was in spite of a good faith effort to pay



Appeals

- Statutory right to appeal revocation or imposition of a split sentence to superior court for de novo violation hearing
 - No appeal of CRV
 - Probably no appeal of Quick Dips
- No de novo appeal to superior court if violation hearing "waived"

