

## For Immediate Release



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From the Office of Sen. Joyce Waddell, NC Senate  
Mecklenburg County

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Greetings:

*As we continue the important work of serving our communities, I want to pause to acknowledge the troubling rise in violence and threats directed at public figures across our nation. Such actions undermine not only the safety of individuals but also the health of our democracy. In North Carolina and beyond, we must remain steadfast in promoting civility, respect, and peaceful dialogue as the foundation for progress and unity.*

*Joyce Waddell*



### Military Careers

*Senator Waddell participated in a presentation about military careers for students presented by the office of Congresswoman Alma Adams.*

### Homelessness Council

The state has appointed members to a new multi-agency council focused on addressing homelessness and expanding affordable housing. The Interagency Council for Coordinating Homelessness Programs is designed to improve collaboration among state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private partners that provide services or advocate for individuals experiencing homelessness.

The council will be jointly led by senior officials from the state's Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

According to recent state data, approximately 11,500 residents experienced homelessness in 2024, including thousands of families, youth, and veterans.

The creation of the Homelessness Council is an important step toward strengthening affordable housing efforts across North Carolina.

## DMV Staffing

One month after receiving approval to expand its workforce, the state's Division of Motor Vehicles has hired 64 new examiners for its driver's license offices. The hires are part of an urgent effort to reduce long wait times that have plagued DMV locations across North Carolina.

Recent data showed customers were waiting an average of nearly three hours once they checked in, with delays often longer in high-demand areas such as Charlotte and the Triangle. To address this, legislation passed in August authorized 40 new examiners for existing offices this year and 24 additional positions. Until those new offices open, the examiners hired for them will be temporarily assigned to existing locations.

The hiring push was accelerated by collaboration between the DMV, the Department of Commerce, and the Office of State Human Resources, which organized statewide job fairs to quickly recruit, screen, and interview candidates. Officials have said the new staff will help relieve immediate pressure, though the agency has noted it will continue to need more workers to fully staff all terminals and keep pace with the state's growing population.

My constituents believe the recent expansion of DMV staff is a welcome step forward, as adding new examiners will help reduce long wait times, improve customer service, and ensure North Carolinians can access the services they need more efficiently.

## NC General Assembly

Visit [www.ncleg.gov](http://www.ncleg.gov), the official website of the North Carolina General Assembly. Use this website as a tool to track bills, find and communicate with your state representatives, as well as follow chamber activity, meetings and issues before the General Assembly.

*You can view bills in full by visiting [www.ncleg.gov](http://www.ncleg.gov).*

***Please don't forget to consider getting vaccinated. There are viruses and other illnesses plaguing our community that can be prevented by vaccines and proper handwashing.***



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