

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AMENDMENTS TO THE WAKE COUNTY CODE OF  
ORDINANCES CHAPTER 130 FIREARMS**

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WHEREAS, in 1981, Wake County adopted an ordinance to establish Chapter 130 of the Wake County Code of Ordinances, entitled "Firearms"; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Firearms Ordinance is to preserve and promote public safety within the jurisdiction of the County relative to the use of firearms; and

WHEREAS, the County's Firearms Ordinance was last updated in 2001; and

WHEREAS, given tremendous population growth and urbanization in Wake County over the past two decades, updates to the ordinance should be considered in order to preserve and enhance public safety; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to NCGS §153A-129, a local ordinance may not regulate the discharge of firearms when used in hunting animals and birds, therefore the Wake County Code of Ordinances Chapter 130 Firearms does not apply to hunting; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments are consistent with North Carolina General Statutes and comparable to other counties in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments to the Firearms Ordinance enhance public safety in the unincorporated areas of the County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to state law, the Wake County Board of Commissioners held a duly noticed public hearing on September 6, 2022, and several other public meetings to receive public input in consideration of proposed amendments to Chapter 130 of the Wake County Code of Ordinances, entitled "Firearms"; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to state law, the Wake County Board of Commissioners conducted the first of two readings on the proposed amendments at their meeting on October 17, 2022 and voted unanimously to adopt the amendments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT:

1. The Wake County Firearms Ordinance preserves and promotes public safety within the jurisdiction of the County relative to the use of firearms by amending the following regulations in the ordinance:
  - a. Increase the minimum distance from a dwelling, public building or livestock in which a person may discharge a firearm from 100 yards to 300 yards.
  - b. Require a backstop or other method of containment that contains the projectile on the property from which it was discharged based on industry standards or at a minimum per the specifications stated in the proposed ordinance amendment.
  - c. Prohibit the discharge of a firearm between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.
  - d. Increase the maximum fine for violation from \$50 to the statutory limit of \$500.

2. The amendments adopted herein shall be effective on December 9, 2022.
3. The amendments are hereby adopted.

Adopted this 9th day of November 2022.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR  
THE COUNTY OF WAKE

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Clerk to the Board

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sig Hutchinson, Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Scott Warren, County Attorney