



# North Carolina Department of Public Safety

## Governor's Crime Commission

Roy Cooper, Governor  
Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

Robert Evans, Chairman  
Caroline C. Valand, Executive Director

May 1, 2020

George V. Laughrun, II  
Goodman, Carr, Laughrun, Levine & Greene, PLLC  
Suite 612 Cameron Brown Building  
301 South McDowell Street  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28204

Dear Mr. Laughrun,

We received your request for information regarding data collected as part of the Death in Custody Reporting Act (DCRA) of 2013. State Administering Agencies responsible for management of the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program are required to collect and submit state information for the DCRA to the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (US Federal Register, 83 FR 44064). As the State Administering Agency, the Governor's Crime Commission (GCC) serves as the central collection and reporting agency for the DCRA program for North Carolina.

The GCC collects death in custody data from law enforcement agencies in North Carolina and reports it on a quarterly basis to meet the federal requirement. The authority set forth in 34 U.S.C. § 10231 prohibits the release of research or statistical information identifiable to any specific private person for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was obtained. Additionally, 34 U.S.C. § 10231 states that, "such information and copies thereof shall be immune from legal process, and shall not, without the consent of the person furnishing such information, be admitted as evidence or used for any purpose in any action, suit, or other judicial, legislative, or administrative proceedings." Therefore, any such requests should be made to the jurisdiction in which reports are originated.

In summary, the information you requested is part of this federal reporting requirement and not available from the GCC. Requests for this data must be requested directly to the submitting agency.

Best,

Caroline C. Valand  
Executive Director

**MAILING ADDRESS:**  
4234 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-4234

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



**OFFICE LOCATION:**  
1201 Front Street  
Raleigh, NC 27609  
Phone: 919-733-4564  
Fax: 919-733-4625

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