

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT 26**

**MECKLENBURG COUNTY**

**IN RE:**

**COURT CLOSURES NECESSARY  
TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH  
DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF GAS  
ODOR PERMEATING THE  
MECKLENBURG COUNTY  
COURTHOUSE**

**FILED**  
**IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE**

2022 JUL 14 P 2:18

MECKLENBURG CO., C/S

BY

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

THIS ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER has been entered to ensure the fair and proper administration of justice and to mitigate the public health threat posed by THE PRESENCE OF NATURAL GAS ODORS PERMEATING the Mecklenburg County Courthouse. The undersigned Senior Resident Superior Court Judge and Chief District Court Judge enter this Administrative Order pursuant to the inherent authority of the court and pursuant to its administrative supervision and authority over the operation of the Superior and District Courts in the 26<sup>th</sup> Judicial District pursuant to CCOOP plan in effect for the 26<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 7A-41.1, 7A-146.

Whereas, the presence of natural gas odors permeating the air surrounding the uptown are of the City of Charlotte was reported at approximately 9:52AM and the City of Charlotte Fire Department and Piedmont Natural Gas Company had been unable to ascertain the origin of the fumes prior to the entry of this order;

Whereas, the presence of the natural gas odors has permeated the courtrooms, offices and public areas of the Mecklenburg County Courthouse since approximately 10:00AM without remediation;

Whereas, the Charlotte City Fire Department reported to the Mecklenburg County Courthouse and cleared the facility for safe occupation at approximately 10:45AM and the business of the court resumed shortly thereafter;

Whereas, jurors, members of the public and court staff have experienced symptoms of nausea and illness; and

Whereas, it is necessary for the health and safety of members of the public, jurors and court staff and personnel that they evacuate the facility as soon as practicable;

WHEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED ADJUDGED AND DECREED that effective immediately:

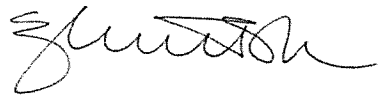
1. All sessions of district and superior court in the 26<sup>th</sup> Judicial District are cancelled and rescheduled.
2. Ex Parte requests for temporary Domestic Violence Protection Orders should be made before the magistrate assigned to the Public Window in the Mecklenburg County Jail.
3. Motions for Non-Secure Custody of a juvenile pursuant to N.C.G.S. 7B-504 and Non-Secure Custody shall be made in accordance with the after-hours procedures for the 26<sup>th</sup> Judicial District.
4. The Clerk of Superior Court will close its office immediately. All persons seeking to file legal documents during regular business hours should submit their filings with the Clerk of Superior court at the Mecklenburg County Jail Magistrate Office. The cashier will accept financial payments at the Mecklenburg County Jail Magistrate Office until 5:00PM on July 14, 2022.

Entered and effective, this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022.



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The Honorable Carla Archie  
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge



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The Honorable Elizabeth Trosch  
Chief District Court Judge