

## North Carolina Task Force *for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice*

# Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice April Clips

TREC's monthly newsletter highlights progress on some of our [recommendations](#) across North Carolina.

## Clips

Improve pretrial release and accountability practices (Recs. 79-83)

**Spectrum:** [Bail reform: Wake County is changing how and when people are held in jail](#)

Starting April 1, Wake County is implementing new bail reforms meant to cut down on the number of people being held in jail awaiting trial.

Revise the role of school resource officers (Recs. 19-25)

**Wilson Times:** [Wilson schools keep kids out of juvenile justice system](#)

Wilson County's efforts to keep school-based offenses out of the juvenile justice system have paid off.

Reduce collateral consequences of criminal convictions (Rec. 123)

**Citizen-Times:** [Buncombe to vote on Dogwood grant, ongoing program that helps people getting out of jail](#)

Services aimed at reducing recidivism in Buncombe County and helping former inmates successfully reintegrate into society are set for a 2022 grant boost.

Expand use of dashboard cameras (Rec. 48)

**WLOS:** [Buncombe County Sheriff's Office installs dash cams on patrol vehicles](#)

The Buncombe County Sheriff's Office is in the process of installing dash cameras on patrol vehicles.

Develop violence prevention programs (Rec. 4)

**WRAL:** [Community looks for answers to stopping gun violence in the Triangle](#)

In Durham, members of a safety task force discussed forming a program focused on hosting listening sessions with families impacted by gun violence and victims. In Raleigh, a pitch for the city to invest in a community violence intervention program.

Increase funding for mental health services and programs in prisons (Rec. 108)

**Hickory Daily Record:** [Catawba County jail looks to increase mental health services](#)

The Catawba County jail is adding mental health services to meet the growing need for diagnosis and treatment for inmates.

[Enhance prison personnel \(Rec. 107\)](#)

**Citizen-Times:** [After 125% turnover in 2021, Buncombe approves hourly wage raise for jail staff](#)

After reports from Buncombe County Sheriff's Office that it experienced 125% turnover of detention center staff since the beginning of 2021, commissioners April 19 approved a measure to raise detention pay by \$3 per hour, an annual and permanent cost of \$864,083.

[Prioritize traffic stops that improve traffic safety \(Rec. 13\)](#)

**New York Times Daily Podcast:** [A Push for Traffic Stop Reform](#)

We look at the different efforts across the country to rethink the stops and at the pushback from opponents who say that restrictions on the practice could keep more guns and criminals on the streets.

[Change entry by force statute \(Rec. 26\)](#)

**Washington Post:** [Broken Doors Podcast](#)

Hosted by Jenn Abelson and Nicole Dungca, "Broken Doors" is a six-part investigative podcast about how no-knock warrants are deployed in the American justice system — and what happens when accountability is flawed at every level.

**Citizen Times:** [Buncombe sheriff candidates speak on Miller's new ban on no-knock warrants](#)

Buncombe County Sheriff's Office has updated its policy handbook to ban no-knock warrants.

[Study the effects of officers' physical and mental health on job performance \(Rec. 60\)](#)

**WCNC-CLT:** [North Carolina attorney general adds support to Public Safety Officer Support Act of 2022](#)

First responders are 25.6 times more likely to develop PTSD, according to North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein's office.

[Establish and fund restorative justice programs \(Rec. 61\)](#)

**NC Policy Watch:** [Criminal justice leaders tout the benefits of 'restorative justice' at NCCU forum](#)

Durham police chief, sheriff, and D.A. agree that county's practices and experience can be a model for systemic reform

[Expand voting rights \(Rec. 119\)](#)

**Center Square:** [North Carolina lawmakers want full appeals court to reconsider felon voting order](#)

Republicans in the General Assembly are requesting a hearing by the full 15-member North Carolina Court of Appeals to reconsider an order allowing felons to vote in November.

## Grant Opportunities

### National Institute of Justice

With this solicitation, NIJ seeks proposals for rigorous research and evaluation projects examining the impact of court and other criminal justice tools, practices, and policies on the administration of justice and public safety in state, local, and tribal jurisdictions. The two research priorities for this FY2022 solicitation are: Diversion for persons who experience mental health issues. Restorative justice strategies.

Link to additional information: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=338934>

### **National Institute of Justice**

With this solicitation, NIJ seeks proposals for rigorous research and evaluation projects in four topic areas. This includes projects that address (1) diversifying responses to public safety needs; (2) implementation and sustainment of long-term organizational change in policing agencies; and (3) police recruitment, retention, and training in today's environment.

Link to additional information: <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/O-NIJ-2022-171247.pdf>

### **Bureau of Justice Assistance**

This initiative seeks to implement transdisciplinary crisis response training to educate and prepare law enforcement, community corrections, and correctional officers so that they are equipped to appropriately interact with people who have behavioral health conditions or intellectual, developmental, or physical disabilities ("disabilities") in the course of completing their job responsibilities.

Link to additional information: <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/O-BJA-2022-171099.pdf>

### **North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services**

In accordance with Session Law 2021-180 Senate Bill 105, funds will be used for the following: 1) Expand employment and transportation supports through innovative pilot programs in industries that suffered the greatest job losses during the COVID-19 pandemic; 2) Support individuals with opioid use disorder who are involved in the criminal justice system; 3) Expand evidence-based treatment supports and improve connections to care, especially for individuals hospitalized for overdose who are uninsured or underinsured; and, 4) Develop evidence-based supportive housing services that are inclusive of individuals with substance use disorders.

Link to additional information: <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/media/15112/download?attachment>

## **TREC Meetings**

For access to TREC meetings click [here](#) and for TREC events click [here](#). Upcoming meetings:

- May 5 at 11 a.m.: Prosecutor Advisory Group Meeting
- May 13 at 9 a.m.: Data, Study and Evaluation Committee Meeting
- May 19 at 8 a.m.: Judicial Committee Meeting
- May 24 at 2 p.m.: Executive Committee Meeting
- May 25 at 8 a.m.: Local Policy Committee Meeting
- May 25 at 10 a.m.: Law Enforcement Advisory Panel Meeting

*For Previous TREC clips can be found at [ncdoj.gov/trec/modelpolicies/](https://ncdoj.gov/trec/modelpolicies/). For more information, please visit [ncdoj.gov/trec](https://ncdoj.gov/trec) or email TREC at [criminaljustice@ncdoj.gov](mailto:criminaljustice@ncdoj.gov) information, please visit [ncdoj.gov/trec](https://ncdoj.gov/trec) or email TREC at [criminaljustice@ncdoj.gov](mailto:criminaljustice@ncdoj.gov).*