



# FROM THE DESK OF DA MERRIWEATHER

The District Attorney's Office is responsible for the prosecution of criminal offenses in Mecklenburg County. Each month, this newsletter provides information about court happenings, initiatives being used to combat crime, the DA's work in the community, and more.

**Mecklenburg  
County  
District  
Attorney's  
Office**



## SUMMER SAFETY

### Keeping yourself, kids, and your home safe

School is out, the pools are open, and everyone is ready to enjoy the summer! As you and your family embark on summer activities, be sure to keep safety in mind.

#### Youth safety

Instruct your children to tell you where they are and where they are going next.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg police recommend teaching children how to call 911 and how to contact a family member or trusted neighbor in the event of an emergency.

Never leave a child alone in a vehicle. That can quickly become a life-threatening situation in the heat.

Davidson police suggest that parents instruct children not to answer the door if they are staying home by themselves.

#### Home safety during vacations

If you are going on vacation, consider asking a friend or neighbor to periodically check on your home. Some of our local police departments, including [Huntersville](#) police, [Cornelius](#) police, [Davidson](#) police, [Matthews](#) police, and [Mint Hill](#) police, offer home security checks while you are on vacation.

Have someone pick up your mail and newspapers while you are gone. You can ask the post office to [hold your mail](#) until you return. Don't leave a spare key outside, and leave some lights on, or use a timer.

Don't broadcast your vacation on social media while you're gone.

#### Safety on the water

If you are boating, wear a life jacket.

At the lake, only swim in designated areas.

Remember, driving a boat while intoxicated is illegal and puts you and others at risk.

Always closely supervise children around pools and bodies of water.

## IN COURT

Last month, our prosecution teams [worked diligently in trial](#) in Superior Court. Among those convicted during those trials sessions were fentanyl traffickers, domestic violence offenders, and a man responsible for shooting and seriously injuring a 12-year-old at his bus stop. This month, prosecutors are back to work in Superior Court. So far this month, our [Felony Crimes](#), [Habitual Felon](#), and [Homicide](#) Teams have tried defendants before juries.

## GUN VIOLENCE

In the wake of the murders of 19 children and two teachers in Uvalde, Texas, DA Merriweather joined U.S. Rep. Alma Adams for a [virtual conversation](#) about gun violence, mass shootings, the spike in juvenile violence, and the ability of children to access guns. No matter what your stance may be on the politics surrounding guns, we all can work to prevent gun violence, particularly among young people. If you are a parent or have young people in your life, we encourage you to start a conversation. Gun owners should never leave firearms in their vehicles, where they are often stolen, and guns should always be stored where children cannot access them. [Click here](#) for more information about safe storage.

## FAQ: Does your office offer any opportunities for students who want to learn about the law?

Yes! The [DA's Exploring program](#) is for high school students who want to learn about legal and criminal justice careers. The program, which is run in partnership with the Boy Scouts of America, is open to young men and women. DA's Office volunteers host monthly meetings from October to May, culminating in a mock trial. The DA's [internship program](#) is for students who are currently in law school.

