

**District Attorney's
Office**

State of North Carolina
26th Prosecutorial District
Mecklenburg County

**Spencer B. Merriweather
III**
District Attorney

www.charmeckda.com

NEWS RELEASE

September 18, 2026

DA Requests SBI Investigation Related to Financial Irregularities Within Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

From Mecklenburg County District Attorney Spencer Merriweather:

“Last month, I asked the NC State Bureau of Investigation to conduct an informal inquiry into reports of alleged financial irregularities within transactions involving Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS), beginning in fiscal year 2026 and into fiscal year 2027. As a result of that informal inquiry, I have, in my discretion under North Carolina General Statute § 114-14, requested the NC SBI initiate a formal criminal investigation related to those irregularities. At this time, this investigative request is not limited to a single party or entity, but it does seek a review of potential violations of N.C.G.S. § 159-181 or any other potential violations of criminal law related to legally prohibited transactions.

“As with any inquiry, a request for a criminal investigation is simply an ask for a formal determination of facts and a search for evidence that can be applied to relevant criminal law. A request for an investigation is not itself a confirmation of the existence of wrongdoing, nor should it be understood as the State’s tendering of a formal allegation of malfeasance. Accordingly, for the duration of this investigation, in strict adherence to the NC Rules of Professional Conduct, neither I nor any member of my office will offer any further comment on this matter.”

**Letter from DA Merriweather Requesting an SBI Investigation is attached below.*

Note: For more information about the District Attorney’s Office, visit www.charmeckda.com. For updates and other information, follow @CharMeckDA on [Facebook](#), [X](#), & [Instagram](#).

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State of North Carolina
General Court of Justice
Twenty-Sixth Prosecutorial District
MECKLENBURG COUNTY

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DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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September 18, 2026

Nick Deming
Special Agent in Charge
NC State Bureau of Investigation
3320 Garner Rd
Raleigh, NC 27610

Re: Allegations Involving Financial Irregularities related to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS)

Dear SAC Deming:

In my discretion, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 114-14, I am asking the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (NCSBI) to initiate a criminal investigation into alleged financial irregularities within transactions involving Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS), beginning in fiscal year 2026 and into fiscal year 2027. Specifically, I am requesting NCSBI to investigate potential violations of N.C.G.S. § 159-181 or any other potential violations of criminal law related to legally prohibited transactions.

As always, if you have any questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Spencer B. Merriweather III".

Spencer B. Merriweather III
District Attorney