

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2005**

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**HOUSE DRH10436-MA-73A\* (8/9)**

Short Title: Civilian Traffic Investigators.

(Local)

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Sponsors: Representatives Dickson and Glazier (Primary Sponsors).

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Referred to:

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ALLOW THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE TO USE CIVILIAN  
TRAFFIC INVESTIGATORS TO INVESTIGATE PROPERTY DAMAGE  
CRASHES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** This act applies to the City of Fayetteville only.

**SECTION 2.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the City of Fayetteville is hereby authorized to employ and allow civilian personnel to investigate traffic crashes. The civilian personnel shall be known as "Civilian Traffic Investigators".

**SECTION 3.** The North Carolina Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards, shall establish the minimum standards for employment as a Civilian Traffic Investigator.

**SECTION 4.** Each Civilian Traffic Investigator shall attend a training program designed by the North Carolina Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards. Upon completion of the training program, a Civilian Traffic Investigator shall spend not less than four weeks of field training with a law enforcement officer who is a certified traffic crash investigator and has experience conducting traffic crash investigations.

**SECTION 5.** Each Civilian Traffic Investigator shall be issued credentials by the City of Fayetteville identifying the individual as a Civilian Traffic Investigator. The Civilian Traffic Investigator shall produce official credentials at any time when requested by a member of the public involved in or as a witness to a crash. A Civilian Traffic Investigator shall be issued a uniform that is substantially different in color and style from that of a law enforcement officer for the City of Fayetteville. Civilian Traffic Investigators shall not be issued badges.

**SECTION 6.** Any vehicles issued to, or used by, a Civilian Traffic Investigator shall not bear markings or symbols that identify the vehicle as a police

1 vehicle. The vehicle may have emergency equipment and lights installed but shall not  
2 use blue lights in any manner or form. Red and amber lights are permissible.

3 **SECTION 7.** Civilian Traffic Investigators shall investigate only crashes  
4 involving property damage. A Civilian Traffic Investigator shall comply with all  
5 provisions of G.S. 20-166.1. However, a report completed by a Civilian Traffic  
6 Investigator shall be treated the same as if it were completed by a law enforcement  
7 officer for the purposes of evidence and trial pursuant to G.S. 20-166.1(i). A law  
8 enforcement officer shall investigate any crash involving personal injury or a fatality.

9 **SECTION 8.** A Civilian Traffic Investigator shall have no authority to arrest  
10 or issue criminal process. They shall not be issued a weapon of any type. An assault on  
11 a Civilian Traffic Investigator is a violation of G.S. 14-33(b)(4).

12 **SECTION 9.** A Civilian Traffic Investigator shall have the same authority as  
13 a law enforcement officer to tow or remove a vehicle that is obstructing a public street  
14 or highway.

15 **SECTION 10.** This act is effective when it becomes law.