



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

November 5, 2025

The Honorable Josh Stein
Governor of North Carolina
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Dear Governor Stein,

We are deeply concerned regarding your consistent refusal to grant the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Fraternal Order of Police's request to deploy the North Carolina National Guard to assist law enforcement in addressing the growing violence crisis in Charlotte.^{1,2}

As you know, the situation in our state's largest city has become increasingly dire. Recently, the city faced 8 homicides in 7 days. The murder rate in uptown Charlotte is now 200 percent higher than it was a year ago.³ According to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Fraternal Order of Police, aggravated assaults involving knives and guns have risen from 86 in 2024 to 111 in 2025, and personal strong-arm robberies have increased from 26 to 31 in the same period.⁴ These are not just numbers—they represent North Carolinians whose lives have been lost or shattered by violent crime.

The Fraternal Order of Police has made clear that local officers are stretched dangerously thin. That reality is reflected in cases like Decarlos Brown Jr., who has been arrested 14 times, and Herbert Jordan, arrested 50 times in and around Charlotte, and a Charlotte teen arrested 111 times in two years and is still walking free.^{5,6} It is no wonder that our officers feel overextended. Until our judicial system ensures criminals are held accountable, there is a compelling case to deter violence through a visible, stabilizing presence such as the National Guard.

¹ <https://x.com/EliBrandTV/status/1980286187270189332>

² <https://www.facebook.com/CLTFOP9/posts/pfbid0iEUHBnJKGijsB7mawDi9oUvcwzpwcfidE62hmqgVAyLw261mIPoxbAPTiDVGm29jl>

³ https://x.com/Brett_Jensen/status/1976434979400974583

⁴ <https://ca.news.yahoo.com/fop-cited-homicides-call-national-090000610.html>

⁵ <https://abcnews.go.com/US/mother-sister-charlotte-stabbing-suspect-describe-history-mental/story?id=125451590>

⁶ <https://www.foxnews.com/us/charlotte-teen-arrested-111-times-2-years-still-walking-free-soft-crime-blue-city-police>

While calling upon the National Guard is not a long-term solution to Charlotte's law enforcement staffing challenges, it is an emergency measure designed to stabilize a crisis situation and protect innocent lives. As the Commander-in-Chief of the North Carolina National Guard, you hold both the authority and the responsibility to act "to secure the safety of persons and property" when local resources are overwhelmed (N.C. Gen. Stat § 127A-16.(a)).

Other cities have deployed the National Guard and seen positive results. In Washington, D.C., when President Trump deployed troops under his lawful authority, the city promptly saw a reduction in crime, including 12 consecutive days without a single murder.⁷ Similarly, Tennessee Governor Bill Lee partnered with the National Guard to protect the citizens of Memphis and saw remarkable outcomes: 850 violent criminals arrested, 175 illegal firearms confiscated, and 44 missing children returned safely to their families.^{8,9} These examples demonstrate that leadership and swift action can restore safety and stability when local resources are strained.

The men and women who wear the badge in Charlotte have sounded an unmistakable cry for help. Yet, you have rejected their cry. The people of North Carolina deserve to know why their governor has refused help while the officers sworn to protect them plead for immediate assistance.

We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,



Mark Harris
Member of Congress



Pat Harrigan
Member of Congress



Chuck Edwards
Member of Congress

⁷ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2025/08/28/federal-police-surge-mayor-bowser-crime-decrease/>

⁸ <https://www.tn.gov/governor/news/2025/9/15/icymi--gov--lee--president-trump-meet-in-oval-office-to-discuss-strategic-mission-to-address-crime-in-memphis.html>

⁹ <https://wreg.com/news/local/tn-governor-bill-lee-set-to-return-to-memphis/>