

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
1997 SESSION

S.L. 1997-356
HOUSE BILL 523

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT CONFISCATED WEAPONS MAY BE KEPT FOR
DEPARTMENTAL USE BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 14-269.1 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-269.1. **Confiscation and disposition of deadly weapons.**

Upon conviction of any person for violation of G.S. 14-2.2, 14-269, 14-269.7, or any other offense involving the use of a deadly weapon of a type referred to in G.S. 14-269, the deadly weapon with reference to which the defendant shall have been convicted shall be ordered confiscated and disposed of by the presiding judge at the trial in one of the following ways in the discretion of the presiding judge.

- (1) By ordering the weapon returned to its rightful owner, but only when such owner is a person other than the defendant and has filed a petition for the recovery of such weapon with the presiding judge at the time of the defendant's conviction, and upon a finding by the presiding judge that petitioner is entitled to possession of same and that he was unlawfully deprived of the same without his consent.
- (2),(3) Repealed by Session Laws 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 16, s. 2.
- (4) By ordering such weapon turned over to the sheriff of the county in which the trial is held or his duly authorized agent to be destroyed. The sheriff shall maintain a record of the destruction thereof.
- (4a) By ordering the weapon, if the weapon has a legible unique identification number, turned over to a law enforcement agency in the county of trial for the official use of such agency, but only upon the written request by the head or chief of such agency. The receiving law enforcement agency shall maintain a record and inventory of all such weapons received.
- (5) By ordering such weapon turned over to the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation's Crime Laboratory Weapons Reference Library for official use by that agency. The State Bureau of Investigation shall maintain a record and inventory of all such weapons received.
- (6) By ordering such weapons turned over to the North Carolina Justice Academy for official use by that agency. The North Carolina Justice

Academy shall maintain a record and inventory of all such weapons received."

Section 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 23rd day of July, 1997.

s/ Dennis A. Wicker
President of the Senate

s/ Harold J. Brubaker
Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ James B. Hunt, Jr.
Governor

Approved 4:10 p.m. this 1st day of August, 1997