

P.O. Box 10972
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director@nclocksmithboard.org

Members:

Deanna Brena,
Robeson

David Burnham,
Forsyth

Erich Crouch,
Forsyth

Garrett Davis,
Durham

Liz Gallo,
Wake

Wanye Goodwin,
Wake

Jon Jeffries,
Randolph

Diane Riddle,
Buncombe

Jack Walder,
Wake

Executive Director:
Barden Culbreth

Legal Counsel:
Hedrick Gardner
Kincheloe and Garofalo, LLP

Meeting Schedule for 2025:

- February 4
- March 4
- April 1
- June 3
- August 5
- October 7
- December 2

NORTH CAROLINA



2026 Update



New Board Leadership

In 2026, the Board elected Jon Jeffries as Chair, Erich Crouch as Vice Chair, and David Burnham as Treasurer/Secretary. Along with the new officers, outgoing Chair Larry Mares and Treasurer/Secretary Mike McCarty, are pictured above.

Business Name Required

It is now a requirement that each licensed locksmith shall notify the Board of the business name(s) they use to engage with locksmith services.

Further, all advertising for locksmith services shall be in the registered name of the business(es).

21 NCAC 29 .0502 (f) Fair Business Practices

Enforcement Update

In 2025, the Board received 41 unique complaints.

In 2025, the Board issued 8 injunctions for unlicensed practice, and two orders of discipline.

In 2025, the Board revoked 3 licenses and suspended 2 licenses.

Check out the list of all civil actions filed by the Board on our website under the Complaints tab.

North Carolina Locksmith Licensing Board

2026 Update

Message from the Chair

Becoming an expert in your trade is a proud accomplishment. It reflects countless hours of practice, study, and real-world experience—whether from books and manuals or hands-on work. Pursuing locksmithing (or any trade) shows dedication and commitment to craftsmanship. Many locksmiths further this by earning national credentials—like Certified Master Locksmith (CML) or Certified Master Automotive Locksmith (CMAL)—which highlight advanced skill and professionalism.

Your NC Locksmith License complements those credentials by demonstrating to the public that you've been vetted by the state and pledged to provide reliable, ethical service. It's an occupational license—similar in purpose to those held by attorneys or doctors—and helps reassure customers that they are choosing a qualified practitioner.

We recognize that careers and interests change. Some licensed locksmiths retire, change professions, limit their work to friends and family, or continue locksmithing as a hobby. That flexibility is fine—just keep in mind a license also carries responsibilities. Staying current with best practices and new security technology ensures the public receives safe, up-to-date services. If maintaining those standards no longer fits your plans, it may be appropriate to let your license lapse. The law does allow people to do unpaid locksmith work for others without holding themselves out as a current locksmith.

As a personal example, I'm a retired police officer with retired credentials. I'm no longer certified to serve in-state and would need to complete parts of Basic Training and retake the state exam to regain certification—a reminder that some professions require active maintenance of credentials.

The Board's mission, as set by the NC Legislature, is to protect the public. Ongoing training and licensing help us meet that goal while supporting skilled, trustworthy locksmiths across the state.

Sincerely,
Jon Jeffries
NCLLB Board Chair

YouTube

The Board now has a YouTube Channel. The Board is posting all of its Board meetings, and hopes to post more informal videos about the work of the Board.

Come to a meeting!

Please note all meetings are open to the public in accordance with the NC Open Meetings Law. If you are interested in attending, even remotely, please contact the Board office for a Zoom link.