

THE GIST

Governor's Crime Commission Monthly Newsletter

Grants Information Stakeholders Training

GCC Hosts First Gang Task Force Meeting

Gov. Josh Stein convened the first meeting of the Gang Prevention and Intervention Task Force, created by Executive Order 21 to reduce gang violence and build safer communities. Co-chaired by Department of Adult Correction Secretary Leslie Cooley Dismukes and Office of Violence Prevention Director Siarra Scott, the task force unites law enforcement, educators, health experts and community leaders to develop strategies that keep young people out of gangs and support rehabilitation. The effort is part of Stein's commitment to public safety, violence prevention and safe, thriving communities. Read about the meeting [here](#).

Highlight - REACH of Macon County

With support from the Governor's Crime Commission, [REACH of Macon County](#) launched a forensic nursing program to ensure that survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence can access compassionate, trauma-informed care in their community.

For years, survivors in the region faced long travel times to receive medical-forensic exams, an added burden during crisis. Now, thanks to GCC funding and collaboration with healthcare partners, a team of on-call forensic nurses provides medical exams, evidence collection and advocacy services.

This shortens response times and promotes healing by allowing survivors to receive care in a familiar, supportive environment. Read the full article [here](#).

2025 Application Cycle Opens Dec. 1

Apply Dec. 1, 2025 - Jan. 31, 2026

Byrne JAG | RSAT | SCIP

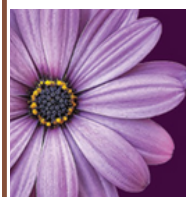
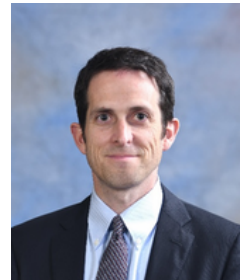
Requests for applications are available for the following funding sources:

- Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant
- Residential Substance Abuse & Treatment Grant
- State Crisis Intervention Response Grant

[Read the combined RFA](#)

New Commissioner - Boz Zellinger

Boz Zellinger is the criminal bureau chief at the NC Department of Justice. He has served as a special prosecutor for NC DOJ since 2018, leading the Special Prosecutions and Law Enforcement Section since 2022. He directs investigations and prosecutions across the state that involve crimes against children, public corruption, homicides and drug trafficking. A Raleigh native, Zellinger earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and his law degree from the University of North Carolina. He began his career as an assistant district attorney in the Wake County district attorney's office, where he spent 10 years prosecuting cases involving special victims. Prior to joining the attorney general's office, he worked as a special assistant U.S. attorney in the Eastern District of North Carolina, prosecuting drug, gun and gang crimes.



Connecting Victims to Compensation Just Got Easier

The North Carolina Office of Victim Compensation Services launched a new online portal that streamlines the process survivors of violent crime and the families of homicide victims use to apply for financial support.

- Online, mobile-friendly application portal
- Secure document upload
- Application status tracking

Visit ncdps.gov/4victims

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