

# STAKEHOLDER RECOMMENDATION: AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA BOND DOUBLING STATUTE

If someone is arrested on an Order for Arrest (OFA) for failing to appear in North Carolina, special rules apply when setting conditions of pretrial release.

## N.C.G.S. 15A-534(d1)

1

At minimum, the judicial official must impose the conditions of release preset by the judge in the OFA.

2

If the judge did not preset conditions, the judicial official must impose a secured bond at least double the amount of the previous secured or unsecured bond on the original charges, with a minimum amount of \$1,000.

Because the statute is mandatory, **judicial officials do not have discretion** to set other conditions that may be warranted based on the nature of the case and the circumstances of the non-appearance.

**Stakeholders who participated in the North Carolina Court Appearance Project recommended amending the bond doubling statute to make bond doubling permissive, rather than mandatory.** They also recommended that the law require magistrates impose the conditions set by judges in OFAs. Read more about their recommendation [here](#).