

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

Park and Recreation Department

Volunteer Screening Process

Current November 2021

All applicants (age 16 and up) serving in any capacity other than special events will be background checked. For this purpose, a special event volunteer is defined as a volunteer who is assisting with an event or project lasting less than one week or fewer than 10 hours.

The applicants must authorize this screening and provide the following information: full name, current address, date of birth, and social security number. This information will be collected solely for the purpose of determining the applicant's eligibility for acceptance into the Volunteer Program.

The Following Standard Criminal Screening will be completed:

- Social Security Trace
- County Criminal Record
- Federal Criminal Record
- Enhanced Nationwide Criminal Search (includes Sex Offender Search)
- Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)

Screening Guidelines

No applicant will be accepted as a volunteer with a conviction, a guilty plea, a plea of no contest, any prayer for judgment continued, or any disposition (other than those just named) which places responsibility on the person for the violation of any of the following:

All Sex Offenses (Regardless of the amount of time since offense):

- Examples include but are not limited to: child molestation, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sodomy, prostitution, solicitation, indecent exposure

All Felony Violence (Regardless of the amount of time since offense):

- Examples include but not limited to: murder, manslaughter, aggravated assault, kidnapping, robbery, aggravated burglar, child abuse

All Fraud (Regardless of the amount of time since offense):

- Examples include but not limited to: embezzlement, fraud, larceny and larceny by trick, misrepresentation to obtain employment security commission benefits

All Other Felony Offenses or patterns of Offenses within the past 10 years:

- Examples include but not limited to: drug offenses, theft, child endangerment.

Misdemeanor – Violent offenses within the past 10 years:

- Examples include but not limited to: simple assault, battery, domestic violence, communicating threats, hit and run, assault with a deadly weapon

Misdemeanor - Drug or Weapon Offenses within the past 10 years:

- Examples include but are not limited to: Simple marijuana possession, possession of drug paraphernalia, carrying a gun on educational property, carrying a concealed weapon, discharging a firearm within City limits.

Misdemeanor Offense within the past 10 years that would be considered a potential danger to children, seniors, people with a disability or any other fragile population:

- Examples include but are not limited to: contributing to the delinquency of a minor, providing alcohol to a minor.

Traffic Criminal within the past 2 years: traffic criminal charges such as, but not limited to reckless driving to endanger, driving while license is revoked and DWI and/or patterns of such charges will be discussed with applicants. Such applicants will be approved in most cases. It is understood that **volunteers never operate County vehicles;** nor do they drive to transport participants (children or adults) or other volunteers during their assigned times.

Applicants who have been charged for any disqualifying offense or have a case pending in court will not be accepted as a volunteer until the official adjudication of the case.

Applicants whose background and/or reference check indicate potentially disqualifying information will be contacted by the County and provided the opportunity to explain or dispute the information.