



## NORTH CAROLINA BURGLAR AND FIRE ALARM ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

JANUARY 28, 2009

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Today legislators return to Raleigh to start the first day of the 2009 North Carolina General Assembly. The session will include the formal swearing in of all legislators and voting on the leadership. Legislators will have many challenges this session, including a reported \$2 billion gap in funding for the remainder of the fiscal year and an even larger funding gap for the upcoming budget for 2009-2011. Most of the leadership in both the House and the Senate remain after the election, and we do not expect any extensive changes. However, on the Senate side, there will be some shifts in committee assignments and responsibilities as several legislators moved on to higher office, including Kay Hagan who is now a U.S. Senator, Walton Dalton who is now our Lieutenant Governor, and Janet Cowell who is now the State Treasurer. In the House, we expect the Democratic leadership team to continue to push forward their agenda and we also expect them to solidify their caucus and become more unified on votes.

As a result of the recent election, there are 15 new legislators this year. Most of them ran against other newcomers for open seats from those who were running for higher office or were retiring. I have included a list of those legislators and the district and county they represent. We need to get to know these legislators and share our issues and concerns with them while they are new to the General Assembly.

<b>Representative</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>District</b>
Hugh Blackwell	Burke	86
James L. Boles, Jr.	Moore	52
Justin P. Burr	Stanly	67
Pearl Burris-Floyd	Gaston	110
Elmer Floyd	Cumberland	43
W. David Guice	Transylvania	113
Nick Mackey	Mecklenburg	99
Darrell G. McCormick	Yadkin	92
Grey Mills	Iredell	95
Shirley B. Randleman	Wilkes	94
Johnathan Rhyne, Jr.	Lincoln	97
Efton M. Sager	Wayne	11
Sarah Stevens	Surry	90
Randy Stewart	Nash	25
Jane Whilden	Buncombe	116



The biggest change that is going to affect the General Assembly this year is the fact that we have a new Governor and many new members of the Council of State. Even though Governor Purdue has formerly served in the Senate and served as Lieutenant Governor, she is still in a new role and the Legislature is not sure what to expect from her or her leadership team. She will have a heavy burden in dealing with the state budget and current economic crisis as well as issues with mental health and the probation system. The executive branch under Governor Purdue will also change under new leadership in the various state agencies. The new cabinet appointments are listed below:

- Lanier Cansler, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services
- Moses Carey, Secretary, Employment Security Commission
- Linda Carlisle, Secretary, Department of Cultural Resources
- Britt Cobb, Secretary, Department of Administration
- Gene Conti, Secretary, Department of Transportation
- Keith Crisco, Secretary, Department of Commerce
- Dee Freeman, Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- Linda Hayes, Secretary, Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
- Alvin Keller, Secretary, Department of Correction
- Ken Lay, Secretary, Department of Revenue
- Eddie Spears, Legal Counsel
- Reuben Young, Secretary, Department of Crime Control and Public Safety

I look forward to working with the North Carolina Burglar and Fire Alarm Association this year on its legislative priorities. I am honored to represent your association and look forward to a successful year.

— Colleen Kochanek  
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