



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 17, 2023

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Davidson Police Confirms RADAR Certifications

DAVIDSON, N.C. – Davidson residents may have seen the recent [Charlotte Observer article](#) describing how many police speed detectors have not been properly certified. Mecklenburg County District Attorney Spencer Merriweather reminded law enforcement officials of the need to comply with North Carolina statutes regarding RADAR certifications. Specifically, RADAR and LIDAR equipment certifications must be wholly consistent with NCGS s. 80-50.2(c). This means that the person approving the certification is certified by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

What's the case in Davidson?

Davidson Police Chief Kim Davidson confirmed with the police department's RADAR vendor that they hold all appropriate FCC licenses. The vendor provided copies of those FCC licenses, and the Davidson Police Department furthermore provided that verification to the Mecklenburg District Attorney's office for review.

Why is this important?

Had the Davidson Police Department not contracted with an appropriately licensed vendor, the District Attorney's office and the Davidson Police Department would have a mandatory obligation to disclose this information in every case pursuant to a Supreme Court ruling, *Brady v Maryland*. While speed detection devices are typically only used in court to supplement the testimony of a trained police officer, the verification of RADAR certifications means no speeding citations in Davidson should be affected.

Want more information on what's going on in Davidson? Be sure to visit our [website](#) often, follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), and sign up for our [eCrier](#) email distribution list.

Located 20 miles north of Charlotte, N.C., Davidson is a small college town with engaged and active citizens who care deeply about their community. We believe in sustainable growth, substantial open space, racial and socioeconomic diversity, environmental stewardship and promoting the health and wellness of all of our citizens. We are the Environmental Protection Agency's 2004 Smart Growth Award Winner for Overall Excellence in town planning and design, a 2011 recipient of a Centers for Disease Control Health Impact Assessment to Foster Community Design grant, 2013 winner of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association's "Great Main Street" award, and home to one of the nation's top liberal arts colleges. We are a pedestrian and bicycle-friendly town with a vibrant business district and a calendar full of community events; we welcome residents and visitors alike.

For more about our town, visit www.townofdavidson.org. To sign up to receive information on town news and events, visit www.townofdavidson.org/eCrier. And remember - your information is safe with us. Senate Bill 182 ensures that, while local governments must provide copies of email distribution lists for public inspection, they do not have to provide copies of those lists to anyone under Public Records Law.