

## **HOUSE BILL 664:** Safer Communities

This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

2015-2016 General Assembly

**Committee:** House Judiciary I

**Introduced by:** Reps. Brawley, McNeill, Saine

**Analysis of:** PCS to First Edition

H664-CSST-43

**Date:** April 27, 2015

**Prepared by:** R. Erika Churchill

Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: The proposed committee substitute for House Bill 664 would authorize company police to enter into mutual aid type arrangements with municipal police forces and sheriffs.

**CURRENT LAW:** G.S. 74E-6(c) provides that company police officers have the authority to make arrests on real property owned or in the possession or control of their employer or of a person who has contracted with the employer to provide on-site company police services for the property. In addition, company police have the power of arrest while in hot pursuit of a person for an offense committed on the property described above.

There are currently three classifications of company police officers:

- Campus Police Officers
- Railroad Police Officers
- Special Police Officers

All company police officers, while in the performance of their duties of employment, have the same powers as municipal and county police officers to make arrests for both felonies and misdemeanors and to charge for infractions on any of the following real property:

- 1. Real property owned by or in the possession and control of their employer.
- 2. Real property owned by or in the possession and control of a person who has contracted with the employer to provide on-site company police security personnel services for the property.
- 3. Any other real property while in continuous and immediate pursuit of a person for an offense committed upon property described in subdivisions (1) or (2) of this subsection.

Company police officers, if duly authorized by the superior officer in charge, have the authority to carry concealed weapons while on duty and also when off duty, provided that when off-duty the company police officer does not consume alcohol or an unlawful controlled substance, or such remains in the officer's system, while carrying the concealed weapon.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** In addition to the powers stated above, the PCS would authorize the person or entity that employs or contracts with a company police agency to enter into joint agreements with either the governing board of a municipality or county (with the consent of the Sheriff), to extend the law enforcement authority of company police officers into that governing board's jurisdiction and to determine the circumstances in which this extension of authority is granted.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Effective when it becomes law.

O. Walker Reagan
Director



Research Division (919) 733-2578