



Researchers are **invited to attend an introductory meeting on November 10, 2021, 1:30-3:00pm** with representatives from the NC Department of Justice, Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice, NC Office of Strategic Partnerships, and others. Email [partnerships@osbm.nc.gov](mailto:partnerships@osbm.nc.gov) for the invite.

**Research Partnership Opportunities**  
**North Carolina Department of Justice**  
 May 2021 (revised October 2021)

**Purpose:** The [North Carolina Office of Strategic Partnerships](#) facilitates research to improve policy and program operations for the benefit of all North Carolinians. Below are partnership opportunities with the **Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice (TREC), NC Department of Justice (DOJ)**. TREC was established by Governor Roy Cooper in June 2020. The Task Force is led by Attorney General Josh Stein and NC Supreme Court Associate Justice Anita Earls and consists of twenty-four members from a wide range of backgrounds. The Task Force submitted its recommendations on December 14, 2020. Read the final report [here](#), the executive summary [here](#), and the recommendation chart [here](#). One opportunity may lead to more than one project. See additional information below, including how to express interest.

	<b>DOJ research questions/needs</b>	<b>Deliverable/Outcome</b>	<b>Status of associated data</b>	<b>Relevant information or links</b>	<b>Timeframe (if known)</b>
1	<b>Study Racial Disparity in Protests (Recommendation #30)</b> Are there racial disparities in how protests and demonstrations are policed in North Carolina?	Qualitative and quantitative analysis of racial disparities in how protests are policed, including communication between organizers and law enforcement, arrests made, and charging outcomes (specific jurisdiction or multiple jurisdictions).	Data lives with different entities (e.g., local law enforcement agencies, district attorneys' offices, etc.).  Likely will require a data sharing agreement.	Model policy is in appendix of <a href="#">report</a> .	Final deliverable by December 2022.

2	<p><b>Study the Effects of Officers' Physical and Mental Health on Job Performance (Recommendation #60)</b></p> <p>Conduct research on officers' physical and mental health and what relationship, if any, it has to on-the-job performance; implement minimum standards as necessary.</p>	<p>Administrative rule change by the NC Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and the NC Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission; local agency policy change; state agency policy change.</p>	<p>Mental and Physical health data lives with the NC Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and the NC Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission. The researcher(s) doing this project would help to develop a definition of job performance and measure performance accordingly.</p>	<p>Part 7 of <a href="#">SB 300</a>. The NC Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission and the NC Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission shall jointly study the benefits, if any, of requiring physical fitness testing throughout the career of a law enforcement officer, and shall also study whether that testing, if required, should be incrementally adjusted based upon the age of the law enforcement officer.</p>	<p>Report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety no later than March 31, 2022.</p>
3	<p><b>Evaluate law enforcement training programs for effectiveness and desired outcomes (Recommendation #59)</b></p> <p>Conduct research on the effectiveness of certain training elements and curriculum to change officer behavior and generate desired system outcomes; implement changes to training content, delivery and cadence as necessary.</p>	<p>Administrative rule change by the Standards Commissions; local agency policy change; state agency policy change.</p>	<p>Training data lives with the <a href="#">North Carolina Justice Academy</a>. The researcher(s) doing this project would help to develop a definition of officer behavior and system outcomes and measure those accordingly.</p>		

**Commitment Needed:** The research needs above have different timelines; DOJ may decide to pursue a project at any time with one or more researchers. Some opportunities will be short-term (commitment of a few months or less); others will require longer commitments. Timeframe/deadlines for completing the projects above will be determined case by case.

**Funding:** Some projects may require funding. This will depend on the scope of the project, level of expertise needed, and other factors. Research partners, agency officials, and the Office of Strategic Partnerships can discuss funding details, including needs and potential sources, on a case-by-case basis.

**Publication Policy:** We are committed to open science best practices, including sharing results and distributing of materials needed to replicate. This includes academic and practitioner publishing and may also include interactive online materials, community forums, podcasts, and beyond as best fit for the relevant audiences.

**Context:** The NC Department of Justice is a Council of State agency of NC state government, which serves over 10 million residents across policy and programmatic domains. The NC Office of Strategic Partnerships is organizationally part of the NC Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM), which includes data-driven and evidence-based decision making among its priorities.

**How to Express Your Interest:** Interested researchers are invited to attend an introductory meeting on November 10, 2021, 1:30 – 3:00pm with representatives from the Department of Justice, Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice, NC Office of Strategic Partnerships, and others. Email [partnerships@osbm.nc.gov](mailto:partnerships@osbm.nc.gov) for the meeting invitation or with any questions.