



## North Carolina Council of Churches

27 Horne Street • Raleigh, North Carolina  
27607

Telephone: (919) 828-6501  
(919) 828-6542

E-mail: [info@ncchurches.org](mailto:info@ncchurches.org)  
[www.ncchurches.org](http://www.ncchurches.org)

Governor Roy Cooper  
116 W Jones Street  
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Governor Cooper,

The North Carolina Council of Churches, on behalf of those whose signatures appear below, respectfully request that you establish a task force to investigate activities in North Carolina related to the CIA's Rendition, Detention, and Interrogation program conducted between 2001 and 2006. The 2018 report by the non-governmental North Carolina Commission of Inquiry on Torture (NCCIT), which was delivered to your office in October 2018, outlines substantial evidence of unlawful conspiracy to kidnap and other human rights violations. The report documents the extra-judicial renditions to torture at least 48 men and one woman, using aircraft based at the Global TransPark in Kinston and the Johnston County Airport, operated by the CIA-affiliated Aero Contractors firm.

The people of North Carolina need transparency and accountability from both the state and federal governments concerning our involvement in the post-9/11 U.S. torture program. The misuse of North Carolina's infrastructure, whether operated by the state or by Johnston County, must be addressed by state officials. We urge you to follow the NCCIT's recommendations by rejecting publicly the use of our state for torture and cruelty, investigating the well-documented cases in the NCCIT report, and acting to prevent the use of North Carolina aviation facilities for future human rights violations.

Our faith teaches us that torture, in addition to being illegal, is immoral. According to military experts, it is also ineffective at obtaining reliable intelligence. Since 2005, people of faith have protested the use of North Carolina's public property for rendition and torture. While we pray for those rendered for torture in Aero Contractors jets, prayer is not enough. We urge you to change our state's stance toward the abuse of God's creation, and we seek your help to ensure that this activity is never repeated.

We trust you will respond positively to our call to shine the light of truth on these events so North Carolinians can work toward our responsibility to help redress the wrongs.

Sincerely,

---

## Denominational Representatives

---

The Rev. Dr. Nilous Avery  
General Baptist State  
Convention of NC

Ms. Paula Dempsey  
North Carolina Alliance of  
Baptist

The Rev. Ben Boswell  
Myers Park Baptist Church

The Rev. Spencer Bradford  
Mennonite Church,  
Eastern Carolina District

The Rev. Rachelle Brown  
Metropolitan Community  
Churches

The Rev. Ted Churn  
Presbytery of New Hope

The Rev. Dorisanne  
Cooper  
Watts Street Baptist  
Church

The Rev. Edward Davis  
United Church of Christ,  
Southern Conference

The Rev. Sonja Lee  
Unity Fellowship Church

Bishop Paul Leland  
United Methodist Church,  
Western North Carolina  
Conference

The Rev. Jerrod Lowry  
Presbyterian Church  
(USA), Presbytery of  
Coastal Carolina

Mr. Frank Massey  
NC Fellowship of Friends

The Rev. Marcus McFaul  
Olin Binkley Baptist  
Church

Bishop José McLoughlin  
Episcopal Church, Diocese  
of Western North Carolina

The Reverend Bishop  
Valerie Melvin  
Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)

Bishop Kenneth Monroe  
African Methodist  
Episcopal Zion, Eastern  
NC District

The Rev. Amy Nyland  
Reformed Church in  
America, Regional Synod  
of New York

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Petty  
Pullen Memorial Baptist  
Church

The Rev. Lia Scholl  
Wake Forest Baptist  
Church

Bishop Samuel Rodman  
Episcopal Church, Diocese  
of North Carolina

Bishop K. J. Rogers  
Reformed Churches of  
God in Christ International

Bishop Timothy Smith  
Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America, NC  
Synod

Bishop Hope Morgan  
Ward  
United Methodist Church,  
North Carolina Conference

## Governing Board Members

---

The Rev. Ernesto Barriguete United Methodist Church, North Carolina Conference	Ms. Renee Hayes United Methodist Church, Western North Carolina Conference	Ms. Christy Lohr Sapp Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, NC Synod
The Rev. Joe Brown, Sr. African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Eastern NC District	The Rev. Bob Hudak Episcopal Diocese of Eastern NC	Ms. MaryJane Selgrade Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, NC Synod
The Rev. Patrick Campbell United Church of Christ, Southern Conference	Mr. Stan Kimer Metropolitan Community Churches	Ms. Deborah Seuss Religious Society of Friends, NC Fellowship of Friends
Ms. Claire Clyburn United Methodist Church, North Carolina Conference	Ms. Mary Ann Lochner At large	Ms. Marcia Mount Shoop Presbytery of Western North Carolina
Ms. Mary Ann Crea At large	Ms. Allison Mahaley At large	
The Rev. Dr. Mindy Douglas Presbytery of New Hope	Erin Maxfield-Steele Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina	The Rev. Dr. T. Anthony Spearman African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Piedmont District
Ms. Nicole Dozier At large	Mr. Paul McAlister At large	Ms. Emily Sprague Church Women United
Mr. Matt Floding Reformed Church of America	The Rev. Conrad Pridgen African Methodist Episcopal Church, Second Episcopal District	Mr. John Taylor Presbytery of Coastal Carolina
The Rev. Erika Funk Presbytery of Charlotte	The Rev. Otis Robinson Reformed Churches of God in Christ International	The Rev. Isaac Villegas Mennonite Church in America
The Rev. David Guthrie Moravian Church, Southern Province		Ms. Brooks Wicker Alliance of Baptists