

7.2 Terminology Used in this Chapter

“Forensic Unit” means a separate unit within a state facility for treatment of mental illness, reserved exclusively for individuals entering through the criminal justice system. These individuals may include those being evaluated for capacity to stand trial, those found incapable of proceeding to trial, and those found not guilty by reason of insanity. The only forensic unit currently in North Carolina is located at Central Regional Hospital (formerly Dorothea Dix Hospital).

“Not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI)” is the verdict resulting from a finding that the defendant committed the acts alleged by the state, but is not guilty because the defendant did not know the nature or quality of the act or could not distinguish between right and wrong.

“State 24-hour facility” means a facility operated by the Department of Health and Human Services that “provides a structured living environment and services for a period of 24 consecutive hours or more.” G.S. 122C-3(14)f., g.