



# Structural Pest Control *Bulletin*

Steve Troxler, Commissioner

Spring 2026

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## New Structural Pest Control Committee Member



We warmly welcome Dr. Hannah Talton to the Structural Pest Control Committee. She is an Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist in Plant Pathology and Integrated Pest Management at North Carolina A&T State University. She holds a Doctor of Plant Medicine degree and a Master's in Entomology. Her current extension work focuses on integrated pest management and science-based decision-making for agricultural and urban systems. Dr. Talton works closely with growers, Extension agents, and industry partners to translate research into practical, on-the-ground solutions.

She believes the structural pest control industry plays a critical role in protecting public health, food systems, and the environment. "I value the industry's emphasis on professionalism, education, and responsible pesticide use. As an Integrated Pest Management specialist, I am particularly interested in supporting approaches that prioritize prevention, accurate identification, monitoring, and targeted and environmentally responsible control strategies."

Her goals are to strengthen the connections between Extension, regulatory agencies, and pest management professionals to support continuing education, workforce development, and adoption of integrated pest management practices. She looks forward to learning from industry members and contributing Extension-based research and educational resources to the Committee's work.

## Current Structural Pest Control Committee

<p><b>Patricia Alder</b> NCSU Appointee 919-513-3805 pmalder@ncsu.edu</p>	<p><b>H. Burns Blackwell</b> G.A. President Pro Tem Appointee 336-621-6212 burns@terminix-triad.com</p>
<p><b>Phillip G. Clegg</b> Governor Appointee 919-477-2134 philclegg@cleggs.com</p>	<p><b>H. Allen Langley</b> G.A. Speaker Appointee 704-482-2847 halangley@hhpci.com</p>
<p><b>Jonathan Lanier—Chairman</b> NCDA&amp;CS Appointee 919-707-3010 jonathan.lanier@ncagr.gov</p>	<p><b>Pierre Lauffer</b> NC DHHS Appointee 919-707-5962 pierre.lauffer@dhhs.nc.gov</p>
<p><b>Shawn Lucas</b> Governor Appointee 252-315-9962 shwnlcs14@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>Andy Miller</b> NCDA&amp;CS Appointee 919-571-4183 x213 andy.miller@nclbgc.org</p>
<p><b>Hannah Talton</b> NC A&amp;T Appointee 336-285-4679 htalton@ncat.edu</p>	<p><b>William A. Tesh</b> Governor Appointee 336-272-4400 btesh@pestmgt.com</p>

Full contact information can be found on our website at: [Structural Pest Control Committee](#)

### Reminder about Home Inspections

Per [02 NCAC 34.0602-Wood-Destroying Insect and Other Organism Reports](#)- “Any written statement as to the presence of wood-destroying insects or organisms or their damage in buildings or structures for sale shall be on the Wood-Destroying Insect Information Report (WDIR 100)”. In recent years, the Division has worked with the N.C. Department of Insurance on educating Licensed Home Inspectors of this requirement. As you know, the WDIR-100 must indicate the Structural Pest Control company name and a license number which includes a W phase.

The Division recently entered into a settlement agreement with a Licensee who allowed a Home Inspector to issue WDIR’s using a different company name, the service vehicle did not display the required License/Company information and a WDIR issued was found to be inaccurate. We will continue to take appropriate, regulatory action if we discover that WDIR inspections are being issued that are not in accordance with our N.C. Structural Pest Control Law and Rules & Regulations.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact your local State Inspector or Field-Manager.

## Inspector's Corner

by Dylan Teper

For the last several months, there has been an unfortunate theme of NCDA&CS Registered Technician School attendees coming to the schools leaving their service vehicles unlocked in the parking lots allowing access to pesticides or other potentially harmful items. One such instance involved an RT school at our headquarters in Raleigh where multiple pest control vehicles were actively spilling pesticide granules onto the NCDA&CS parking lot. Licensees & their employees are required to adhere to statute 02 NCAC 34.0401(d) and 02 NCAC 34.0407 that state:

- ⇒ [02 NCAC 34.0401\(d\)](#): *"When pesticides are stored or transported in or on a vehicle, a suitable storage space shall be provided thereon. Such space shall be constructed so as to maintain all pesticide containers in a manner which will prevent spills and shall be locked when the vehicle is unattended."*
- ⇒ [02 NCAC 34 .0407\(h\)](#): *"When unattended, pesticides shall be stored to prevent unauthorized access."*

All pest management professionals should take pride in their service vehicles. The vehicles must be checked regularly to make sure all equipment and storage locks work properly; not only is this good industry practice, but is now required with the new certification and training rules began being enforced on 7/1/2025. If service vehicles continue to show up to Registered Technician Schools with unlocked pesticide storage, the Structural Pest Control Section will have no choice but to start taking stronger regulatory action against the violators.

We are concerned that these instances of unsecured pesticide storage at events conducted by regulatory personnel reflect an even larger problem when these same vehicles are being used to perform services for the general public. On the job training, quality control checks, and daily inspection of vehicles may eliminate some of this, but a genuine concern for public safety, children, and the environment and the potential exposure to pesticides should be emphasized to all employees. When we encounter individuals using service vehicles with missing or broken storage locks, we hear:

- ⇒ *"This isn't my regular vehicle."*
- ⇒ *"They told me not to worry about it."*
- ⇒ *"I was never told I had to lock my pesticide storage."*

Many pesticide labels may have additional language dictating pesticide storage requirements; make sure you read and adhere to all label requirements. Examples include:

- ⇒ Store upright at room temperature.
- ⇒ Avoid exposure to extreme temperatures.
- ⇒ ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS: This pesticide is toxic to birds, fish, and aquatic invertebrates.
- ⇒ Do not contaminate water, food, or feed by storage or disposal.
- ⇒ STORAGE: Store unused product in original container only, out of reach of children and animals.
- ⇒ KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

## SPC Personnel Changes

- **Bowman Gray** — Bowman Gray retired on April 1, 2025 with twenty years of service with NCDA&CS-Structural Pest Control Section as an Inspector in the Southeastern portion of the state. Bowman recently had an addition to his family with the birth of a son. We wish Bowman well in his future endeavors.

### **Structural Pest Control Sales Guidelines**

- ◆ **Does the Structural Pest Control Act require salespeople who sell or solicit structural pest control services (e.g., door-to-door) to be employees—not independent contractors—of the licensee?**

#### **2023 SPCC Declaratory Ruling: YES**

- ◆ If a person acts as an estimator, salesperson, serviceman, or solicitor for structural pest control, they must either:
  1. Hold their own structural pest control license, or
  2. Be an employee of a company that employs a license holder as a full-time regular employee with authority to direct and control them.

#### **Key Reasons:**

- ◆ Sales/solicitation inherently involves inspection and identification of pest conditions; therefore, sales reps are performing structural pest control and fall within the legal definition of “employee.”
- ◆ Independent contractors are **not permitted**, because:
  - ◇ They cannot be adequately supervised or controlled by the license holder.
  - ◇ They would bypass mandatory identification card requirements under N.C.G.S. § 106-65.31(b1).
  - ◇ They would avoid required training.
  - ◇ It would undermine consumer protection goals and create liability and enforcement gaps.
- ◆ Using non-employee salespeople could cause multiple statutory violations, including:
  - ◇ Allowing someone to “offer to engage in” structural pest control without proper employment structure.
  - ◇ Allowing a company to unlawfully let another entity use its license.

#### **Conclusion:**

**Salespeople must be true employees under the license holder’s direct control. A company cannot classify sales representatives as independent contractors for selling structural pest control services.**

# The More You Know

- ⇒ [Per GS 106-65.31\(b1\)](#) “Registration. - Within 75 days after the hiring of an employee who is either an estimator, salesman, serviceman, or solicitor, the licensee shall apply to the Division for the issuance of an identification card for such employee.” We are making it a point of emphasis to ensure all persons affected by this Act have the required credentials, **including seasonal employees**.
- ⇒ We have developed a Registered Technician (RT) training video and added it to **both** our Registered Technician Training Program requirements and as a REQUIRED annual component for currently credentialed RTs per the 2025 EPA C&T Rules revision. See our [website](#) for details.
- ⇒ Our Field Inspectors, Managers, & Administrative team have a variety of on-demand training presentations available for your company. Examples include: WDIR-100, Waiver, Service Vehicle Inspections/Safety, & Pre-Construction Treatments. We can also create training for your specific needs. Contact a member of the NCDA&CS Structural Pest Control Section staff for additional details.
- ⇒ Per NC structural statutes, written notification to the Division must be made within 10 days for changes including, but not limited to:
  - Business Address Change
  - Company Name Change
  - Employer Change
  - Telephone # Change
  - Sale of Business
  - Closure of Business
- ⇒ We periodically update documents to better capture necessary information; therefore the Division requires use of the current versions of forms, applications, etc. Please do not save copies of the NCDA&CS documents to your internal servers for future use; we suggest you bookmark our [NCDA&CS Structural Pest Control Forms webpage](#) on your internet browser.
- ⇒ We have been working diligently to make the Structural exam registration process easier. Exam registration has shifted from emailing a completed PDF form to an online registration. To help ensure a smooth registration process, please ensure the information you enter is accurate. Common places for errors include: Exam Type, Social Security #, Middle Initial, & Email Address. Also, your registration is not complete until you click the ‘Submit’ button (a ‘Registration Successful’ message will appear & a registration confirmation will be emailed).
- ⇒ Exam results are no longer posted on the website; they are emailed to the registration email address provided, so unique email addresses are required.
- ⇒ We now accept Credit/Debit cards for in-person Structural Exams. Please note that there is a \$1 convenience fee per exam for credit card use.
- ⇒ **This is the time of year to ensure you have your CCU credits up to date to meet your requirements.**

[NCDA&CS Structural Pest Control Credential Transcript Search](#)

[NCDA&CS Structural Pest Control Credential Recertification Requirements](#)

## N.C. Structural Pest Control Committee Announces Case Settlements

RALEIGH –The N.C. Structural Pest Control Committee approved settlement agreements for two cases in Craven county at the **July 9, 2025** meeting held in Raleigh, at the Steve Troxler Agricultural Sciences Center. Following are the agreements:

- Kyle Calder, a structural pest control licensee for Aptive Environmental in Cary, agreed to pay \$3,200 for failure to adequately control, direct, and supervise the structural pest control activities of their office and for using a pesticide in a manner inconsistent with its label.
- Stephen Miller, a structural pest control licensee for Ridd Pest Control in Raleigh, agreed to pay \$8,000 for failure to adequately control, direct, and supervise the structural pest control activities of their office, falsifying records, for not having employees complete required RT training, not following pesticide use and storage regulations, improper pesticide container labeling, lack of adequate spill control, and not following regulations concerning WDO agreements and pest control records.
- Andy Bartholomew, a structural pest control licensee for Orkin Exterminating in Wilmington, agreed to pay \$1,600 for failure to adequately control, direct, and supervise the structural pest control activities of their office and misrepresentation of a pest infestation.
- Shawn Wagner, who works for Orkin Exterminating in Wilmington, agreed to pay \$1,600 for misrepresentation of a powder post beetle pest infestation.
- Stanley Hollingsworth, a structural pest control licensee for Bug N A Rug in Wilmington, agreed to pay \$2,800 for failure to adequately control, direct, and supervise the structural pest control activities of their office, misrepresentation of a pest infestation, and not following regulations concerning WDO agreements.
- Dennis Jones, a structural pest control licensee for Applied Pesticide Technology in Clemmons, agreed to pay \$1,000 for failure to adequately control, direct, and supervise the structural pest control activities of their office.
- Craig Herron, who works for Applied Pesticide Technology in Clemmons, agreed to pay \$1,000 for using a pesticide in a manner inconsistent with its label and not preventing pesticide runoff or drift for the target location.

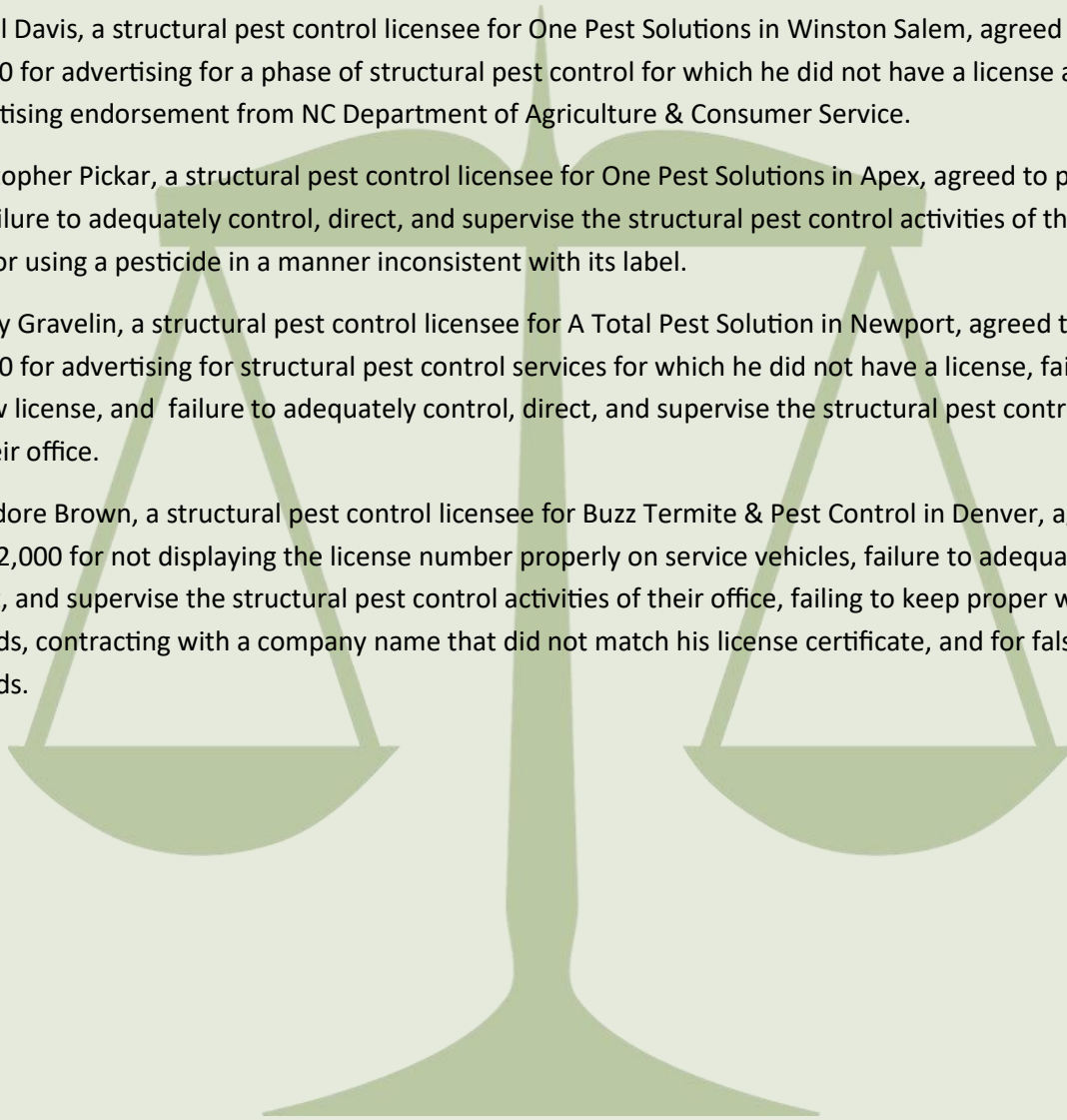
- Dennis Gatrell, a structural pest control licensee for Dodson Bros Exterminating in Candler, agreed to pay \$1,200 for failure to adequately control, direct, and supervise the structural pest control activities of their office, failure to provide a proposal to a customer, and incomplete treatment records, including inaccurate diagram & waiver forms.
- Paige Ford, who works for Dodson Bros Exterminating in Candler, agreed to pay \$1,000 for failure to provide a proposal to a customer and incomplete treatment records, including inaccurate diagram & waiver forms.
- Matt Guy, who works for Dodson Bros Exterminating in Candler, agreed to pay \$1,000 for using a pesticide in a manner inconsistent with its label.



## N.C. Structural Pest Control Committee Announces Case Settlements

RALEIGH –The N.C. Structural Pest Control Committee approved settlement agreements for four cases in Gaston and Wake counties at the **December 11, 2025** meeting held in Raleigh, at the Steve Troxler Agricultural Sciences Center. Following are the agreements:

- Daniel Davis, a structural pest control licensee for One Pest Solutions in Winston Salem, agreed to pay \$2,000 for advertising for a phase of structural pest control for which he did not have a license and advertising endorsement from NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Service.
- Christopher Pickar, a structural pest control licensee for One Pest Solutions in Apex, agreed to pay \$1,000 for failure to adequately control, direct, and supervise the structural pest control activities of their office and for using a pesticide in a manner inconsistent with its label.
- Jeffrey Gravelin, a structural pest control licensee for A Total Pest Solution in Newport, agreed to pay \$1,000 for advertising for structural pest control services for which he did not have a license, failure to renew license, and failure to adequately control, direct, and supervise the structural pest control activities of their office.
- Theodore Brown, a structural pest control licensee for Buzz Termite & Pest Control in Denver, agreed to pay \$2,000 for not displaying the license number properly on service vehicles, failure to adequately control, direct, and supervise the structural pest control activities of their office, failing to keep proper written records, contracting with a company name that did not match his license certificate, and for falsification of records.



## The Fun Zone

### *Did you know?*

- ◇ Bedbugs are “attracted” to their host’s carbon dioxide and can lay in wait for ~1 year if there is no host available.
- ◇ Cockroaches can run up to 3 miles per hour, hold their breath for ~40 minutes.
- ◇ Mosquitoes are particularly drawn to feet and ankles due to a combination of odors, warmth moisture, and accessibility.
- ◇ Over 2 billion people worldwide include insects in their diet. Bugs like crickets, mealworms, and grasshoppers are not only nutritious but also more sustainable to farm than traditional livestock.
- ◇ The US FDA has published guidelines on the maximum allowable amounts of contaminants, including “insect fragments”, in food products.

### *Word Scramble*

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