



For Immediate Release:

New North Carolina Bipartisan Network Works toward Fair, Safe, and Secure Elections; Plans Statewide ‘Trusted Elections Tour’

In the midst of a hyperpartisan political environment, North Carolina Democrats and Republicans have found something to work on together: democracy.

In one of its first initiatives, the North Carolina Network for Fair, Safe, and Secure Elections is hosting 14 town halls across the state, one in each congressional district. This *Trusted Elections Tour* aims to provide information on the electoral process, build trust in our voting system, and strengthen civil discourse.

The tour kicks off in Wake Forest on Aug. 30 and continues in Smithfield on Aug. 31.

The North Carolina Network for Fair, Safe, and Secure Elections is a bipartisan, grassroots effort initiated by The Carter Center. Led by former Charlotte Mayor Jennifer Roberts and former N.C. Supreme Court Justice Bob Orr, the network is made up of civic, business, and religious leaders and citizens from both sides of the political aisle. Members will serve as community advocates for peaceful political engagement and trusted elections and work on a range of activities to foster confidence in electoral processes and address disinformation.

“The bipartisan network is a testament to the ability of North Carolinians to reach across the political divide and work for the betterment of our state,” said Roberts, a Democrat.

Orr, a former Republican justice, concurred.

“The network should serve as an example that there is far more about which Americans agree than about which we disagree,” he said. “Our *Trusted Elections Tour* also will remind folks of the excellent election workers across the state, from both political parties, who are committed to seeing that all elections are fair, safe, and secure.”

North Carolina is one of several key states where The Carter Center is lending its expertise in conflict resolution and democracy strengthening to help bolster democratic norms ahead of the 2022 midterms. The Center, a nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization founded by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, has been supporting peace and democracy around the world since 1982.

Tour Dates and Cities

NC-2: Wake Forest – Aug. 30
NC-13: Smithfield – Aug. 31
NC-3: New Bern – Sept. 7
NC-1: Edenton – Sept. 8
NC-12: Charlotte – Sept. 13
NC-14: Belmont – Sept. 14
NC-8: Albemarle – Sept. 15
NC-11: Fletcher – Sept. 20
NC-10: Hickory – Sept. 21
NC-5: Wilkesboro – Sept. 22
NC-9: Southern Pines – Sept. 27
NC-6: Greensboro – Sept. 28
NC-7: Wilmington – Oct. 3
NC-4: Hillsborough – Oct. 6

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