

## **Petition for Increased Safety and Action Regarding Homelessness Around UNC Campus and Franklin Street**

**To: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Administration and the Town of Chapel Hill**

We, the undersigned students, residents, business owners, and members of the Chapel Hill community, are calling for immediate and meaningful action to address the increasing levels of homelessness around the UNC campus, especially in Franklin Street, downtown Chapel Hill, and surrounding student housing neighborhoods.

As a student at UNC, I've personally experienced multiple unsafe encounters involving individuals experiencing homelessness — including aggressive confrontations while walking to and from class and work. Just this week, a homeless man entered my student apartment without permission. This was not only frightening, but a clear violation of our safety and sense of security. Unfortunately, these types of incidents are becoming more common.

Local business owners, too, are being affected — with reports of loitering, harassment of customers, and unsafe conditions for employees. This problem is no longer something we can ignore or downplay.

We are not asking for cruelty or criminalization — we are asking for **accountability, safety, and serious solutions**.

We respectfully urge the University and the Town of Chapel Hill to:

1. Increase public safety presence in high-traffic student and business areas, including Franklin Street and the blocks surrounding campus.
2. Enforce no-trespassing rules around student housing and commercial spaces.
3. Strengthen partnerships with shelters and outreach services to provide safe alternatives for unhoused individuals.
4. Engage with students, business owners, residents, and campus organizations in open forums to address this issue collaboratively and transparently.

This petition is not about placing blame — it's about protecting the safety, mental well-being, and daily lives of those who live, learn, and work here. The current state of inaction is no longer acceptable.

**Please join me in signing this petition to call for action from the University and the Town of Chapel Hill.**

— A concerned (and anonymous) UNC student

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