



THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

August 18, 2026

2026-2027 Board Members

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Past Pres Patrick Baker

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Mark Norman



North Carolina State Auditor Dave Boliek

By **Paul Bartholomy**

The Rotary Club of Charlotte welcomed North Carolina State Auditor Dave Boliek, who offered an energetic look inside an office that he acknowledged many North Carolinians may not fully understand. Introduced by past president **Patrick Baker**, Boliek explained that the State Auditor's Office examines how public dollars are managed across state agencies, universities, local governments and other organizations receiving public funds. He emphasized that this work helps protect taxpayers while supporting North Carolina's strong financial standing and creating greater confidence in government.

Boliek highlighted the office's performance audit of the North Carolina DMV as an example of how auditing can lead to measurable improvement. Following the audit and coordinated action by state leaders, he said average DMV wait times have fallen dramatically across the state. He also discussed the office's increasing attention to municipalities, sharing examples of audits that have identified financial management concerns and questionable expenditures. Throughout his remarks, Boliek returned to a simple theme: government is spending the public's money, making accountability and responsible stewardship essential.

Charlotte also featured prominently in the discussion. Boliek praised the City of Charlotte for its cooperation with his office and described a new approach to monitoring the \$650 million in public financing for renovations to Bank of America Stadium. Rather than waiting years to review the expenditures, the Auditor's Office is receiving regular information from the city and Tepper Sports with plans to provide ongoing public reporting. He also discussed a recent review of Charlotte's public transportation system, including fare enforcement and spending designated for safety and security, illustrating the office's goal of identifying opportunities for both accountability and better results.

Looking ahead, Boliek described an office increasingly embracing technology, data and artificial intelligence to analyze information faster while still requiring human review to ensure accuracy. He said the office has significantly expanded its internal data capabilities and is exploring new technology partnerships as it works toward more data-driven solutions to government challenges. Upcoming work includes reviews involving the North Carolina Education Lottery and Opportunity Scholarship Program, along with continued tracking of public funds supporting Hurricane Helene recovery in Western North Carolina. Boliek closed on an optimistic note, describing North Carolina as a state experiencing tremendous growth and emphasizing his commitment to ensuring taxpayers receive a meaningful return from their government.

A recording of the meeting can be found here:

With Slides: <https://vimeo.com/1220251262?fl=pl&fe=sh>

Without Slides: <https://vimeo.com/1220253447?fl=pl&fe=sh>

The speaker's introduction begins at about 25 minutes and 55 seconds.