

NEWS RELEASE

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Habitual Felon Team sends 19 to prison

In March 2010 the Habitual Felon Team tried an individual (whose name will not be disclosed at this time because he has other unrelated cases currently pending) for felony property crimes and for being a habitual felon; after the jury returned verdicts of *guilty* as charged, the presiding superior court judge sentenced the defendant to a minimum of 18 years and a maximum of 24 years in prison.

On Tuesday, March 30 and Wednesday, March 31, 2010, the Habitual Felon Team held administrative court in courtroom 5310 before The Honorable Forrest D. Bridges, Superior Court Judge. Eighteen defendants pled guilty to various felonies and all defendants received active prison sentences. Among the eighteen who were sentenced to prison were these two habitual felons whom, under NC's structured sentencing system, have the highest prior record level (PRL VI) possible:

Roderick Patterson, age 39, received 101-131 months in prison for two counts of breaking or entering and being a habitual felon

John Broadway, age 44, received 101-131 months in prison for selling cocaine, selling marijuana, and being a habitual felon

Note: Almost all guilty pleas entered in criminal administrative court are the result of an agreed upon plea arrangement between the State and the defendant, which is then approved by the sentencing judge. For more information about why most cases must be resolved by plea negotiation instead of jury trial, please visit the "Understanding Criminal Court" section of the DA's website at www.charmeckda.com.

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