

NEWS RELEASE

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August 26, 2009

Crimes Against Property Team tries three defendants, several plead guilty

The week of August 17 to August 21, 2009, the Crimes Against Property Team conducted three jury trials in Mecklenburg County.

The first trial was of Lewis Szucs, age 54, for 1) felony breaking or entering, 2) felony larceny, and 3) felony possession of stolen goods. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* to all counts. The State then proceeded against Mr. Szucs for being an habitual felon. Mr. Szucs admitted his status as an habitual felon. The Honorable Calvin E. Murphy, Superior Court Judge, sentenced the Defendant to 100-129 months with the Department of Correction. (Courtroom 5370)

The second jury trial was of Roderick Alexander, age 42, for failure to register as a sex offender. The jury returned a verdict of *not guilty* to the charge. The Honorable Linwood O. Foust, Superior Court Judge, presided over the trial. (Courtroom 5150)

The third jury trial was of Minton Francis, age 51, for 1) felony breaking or entering, 2) felony larceny, and 3) felony possession of stolen goods. The jury returned a verdict of *not guilty* on all felony offenses, but returned a verdict of *guilty* to misdemeanor possession of stolen goods (a lesser included charge of felony possession of stolen goods). The Honorable Linwood O. Foust, Superior Court Judge, presided over the trial and sentenced Francis to 90 days in jail. (Courtroom 5150)

In addition to the three jury trials, some defendants pled guilty before their trials began; among them were:

Sedrick Carson, age 23, pled guilty to felony breaking or entering, felony larceny, and felony conspiracy and was sentenced to a split sentence of 60 days in jail and 8-10 months in prison, suspended for 30 months of probation. (Courtroom 5370; Judge Murphy)

Ashley Hartis, age 18, pled guilty to misdemeanor breaking or entering and larceny and was sentenced to 45 days in jail, which was suspended for 12 months of probation. (Courtroom 5370; Judge Murphy)

Lanai Walker, age 26, pled guilty to felony breaking or entering a motor vehicle, felony possession of a stolen motor vehicle and felony larceny of a motor vehicle and was sentenced to 6-8 months, suspended for 24 months of probation. (Courtroom 5370; Judge Murphy)

Lamont Wilson, age 30, pled guilty to misdemeanor possession of stolen goods and was sentenced to 120 days, suspended for 12 months of probation. (Courtroom 5370; Judge Murphy)

Brandon Hemphill, age 20, pled guilty to felony breaking or entering and felony larceny, and was sentenced to 10-12 months in prison.

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