

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Crimes Against Persons Team convicts violent felons**

Forty-seven defendants pled guilty to violent felony crimes in Mecklenburg County Superior Court from Monday, August 30, to Friday, September 3, 2010. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Calvin E. Murphy, Superior Court Judge. The convictions were for crimes that included armed robbery, assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury, child sex offenses, rape, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Based on the structured sentencing laws in North Carolina, sentences ranged from probation to nine years in prison; some of them included:

Deshawn Johnson (17) was convicted of robbery with a dangerous weapon and was sentenced to 61-83 months in prison.

Charles Johnson (16) was convicted of robbery with a dangerous weapon and was sentenced to 38-55 months in prison.

Julio Ruiz (26) was convicted of felony secret peeping and was sentenced to 4-5 months in prison suspended for 30 months supervised probation with sex offender registration.

Brian Gartland (18) was convicted of two counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon and first degree burglary and was sentenced to 64-86 months in prison.

John Berryman (40) was convicted of robbery with a dangerous weapon and he admitted his status as a habitual felon; Berryman was sentenced to 84-110 months in prison.

Benquilla Jackson (20) was convicted of first degree burglary and conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon and was sentenced to 61-83 months on prison.

Delton McCoy (19) was convicted of robbery with a dangerous weapon and assault with a deadly weapon on a law enforcement officer and was sentenced to 51-71 months in prison.

Eric Barnes (25) was convicted of two counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon and was sentenced to 50-69 months in prison.

Carl Perry (17) was convicted of attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon and common law robbery and was sentenced to 38-55 months in prison.

David Espino (23) was convicted of robbery with a dangerous weapon and was sentenced to 38-55 months in prison.

*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](http://www.charmeckda.com).*

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