

NEWS RELEASE

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Drug Team convicts 38 felons in 3 days

Thirty-eight defendants pled guilty to felony drug crimes in Mecklenburg County Superior Court from Monday, September 14, to Wednesday, September 16. The defendants entered their pleas in courtroom 5310 before The Honorable Eric L. Levinson, Superior Court Judge. The convictions were for crimes that included possessing, selling, and trafficking in illegal drugs. Based on the structured sentencing laws in North Carolina, sentences ranged from probation to Shannon Clay's active prison sentence of 35-42 months for trafficking in cocaine. Clay was also fined \$50,000.

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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