

NEWS RELEASE

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November 1, 2010

Habitual Felon Team sends 22 to prison

Twenty-four defendants pled guilty to felonies in Mecklenburg County Superior Court before The Honorable Eric L. Levinson, Superior Court Judge. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in administrative courtroom 5350 on Tuesday October 26, Wednesday, October 27, and Friday, October 29, 2010. A couple of the defendants were not habitual felons under North Carolina's habitual offender laws. Twenty-two of the twenty-four defendants to enter a guilty plea were given active prison sentences; among them were:

Terrence Luckey, 28, pled guilty in two separate cases. In the first case, he pled guilty to 1) possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine, 2) possession of marijuana, 3) possession of drug paraphernalia, and 4) being a habitual felon. In the second case, he pled guilty to 1) possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine, 2) possession of marijuana, and 3) being a habitual felon. Luckey was sentenced to 108-139 months in prison.

Earl Smith, 39, pled guilty to failing to register as a sex offender and admitted his violation of probation. Smith was sentenced to 23-28 months in prison.

Roosevelt Blakeney, 47, pled guilty to selling cocaine; he was sentenced to 31-38 months in prison.

Dustin Eaton, 24, pled guilty to possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana (approximately 40 pounds) and being a habitual felon. Eaton was sentenced to 70-93 months in prison.

Valentine Smith, 43, pled guilty to three counts of forgery and was sentenced to 24-30 months in prison.

Antoine Isles, 40, pled guilty to selling a controlled substance within 1000 feet of a school and was sentenced to 40-57 months in prison.

Damion Jackson, 33, pled guilty to possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine and was sentenced to 28-33 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.

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