

NEWS RELEASE

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DA's Drug Team convicts 6 during trial week

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg District Attorney's Drug Prosecution Team convicted six defendants during the week of December 17-21, 2012, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court in courtroom 5150 before The Honorable Linwood O. Foust, Superior Court Judge, and in courtroom 5370 before The Honorable Eric L. Levinson, Superior Court Judge.

Jeremiah Luke, 34, was tried for attempted trafficking in cocaine. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* as charged. Judge Levinson sentenced Luke to 75-99 months in prison.

Anthony Gordon, 56, filed a motion to suppress evidence seized by law enforcement, alleging violations of his legal rights. After hearing testimony and arguments from the defense and the Assistant District Attorney, Judge Levinson denied the defendant's motion. Then, Gordon pled guilty to 1) possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana and 2) possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Levinson sentenced Gordon to 5-15 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending the defendant's successful completion of 20 months of supervised probation. As one of his conditions of probation, Gordon must serve a split sentence of 22 days in the county jail.

Kinchen Lee, 34, was tried for 1) sale of cocaine, 2) sale of marijuana, 3) delivery of cocaine, 4) delivery of marijuana, 5) possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana and 6) possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* on the offense of misdemeanor possession of marijuana, a lesser included offense of possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana. The jury returned verdicts of *not guilty* on all remaining charges. Judge Foust sentenced Lee to 15 days in the county jail.

Ronald Crow, 63, filed a motion to suppress evidence seized by law enforcement, alleging violations of his legal rights. After hearing testimony and arguments from the defense and the Assistant District Attorney, Judge Foust granted the defendant's motion and ordered that the evidence seized by law enforcement be suppressed. The state then dismissed the charge of possession of cocaine against Crow.

The following defendants pled guilty when their cases were called for trial:

Shawn Blackshear, 30, pled guilty to attempted trafficking in cocaine. Judge Levinson sentenced Blackshear to 12-24 months in prison.

Sean Watkins, 25, pled guilty to delivery of cocaine. Judge Levinson sentenced Watkins to 8-10 months in prison.

Wendell McCain, 23, pled guilty to 1) sale of marijuana and 2) possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana. Judge Foust sentenced McCain to 6-8 months in prison for the sale of marijuana conviction and 5-15 months in prison for the possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana conviction; those sentences were suspended for a period of 30 months of supervised probation.

Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit www.charmeckda.com. For updates and other information, "like" the DA's Office on Facebook at www.facebook.com/charmeckda and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.

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