

NEWS RELEASE

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Habitual Felon Team sends 16 defendants to prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team convicted 23 defendants, including habitual breaking or entering offenders, during the week of January 4, 2016. Sixteen of those defendants were sent to prison. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge.

Among those convicted were:

Akeem Olajuwon Bailey, 26, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) being a habitual felon. Bailey was sentenced to 83-112 months in prison. Some of Bailey's prior convictions include possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine, assault with a deadly weapon with the intent to kill or seriously injure and sale of cocaine.

Joshua James Goff, 34, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) possession with the intent to sell or deliver methamphetamine and 3) being a habitual felon. Goff was sentenced to 76-104 months in prison. Some of Goff's prior convictions include possession with the intent to sell or deliver a schedule I controlled substance, attempted trafficking in MDMA and second-degree burglary.

Ernest Demond Reid, 43, pled guilty to 1) being a habitual breaking or entering status offender and 2) felony breaking or entering. Reid was sentenced to 50-72 months in prison. Reid's prior convictions include multiple counts of felony breaking or entering.

Yolando Ernest Boyd, 47, pled guilty to 1) common law robbery and 2) larceny from the person. Boyd was sentenced to 46-74 months in prison.

Jonathan William Vance, 43, pled guilty to 1) two counts of uttering a forged instrument and 2) being a habitual felon. Vance was sentenced to 39-59 months in prison. Some of Vance's prior convictions include possession of a stolen motor vehicle, possession of cocaine and selling a counterfeit controlled substance.

Jack Steven Ferrell, 33, pled guilty to 1) being a habitual breaking or entering status offender, 2) four counts of felony breaking or entering and 3) three counts of larceny after breaking or entering. Ferrell was sentenced to 35-54 months in prison. Some of Ferrell's prior convictions include felony breaking or entering, felony larceny and breaking or entering a motor vehicle.

Mark Allen Nixon, 45, pled guilty to 1) being a habitual breaking or entering status offender, 2) felony breaking or entering, 3) larceny after breaking or entering and 4) resisting a public

officer. Nixon was sentenced to 30-48 months in prison. Some of Nixon's prior convictions include felony breaking or entering and felony breaking and entering into automobile tanks.

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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