

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Crimes Against Persons Team tries 3 defendants, 3 plead guilty**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The District Attorney's Office Crimes Against Persons Team tried three defendants the week of January 3, 2012, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. The trials were held in courtrooms 5150 and 5370.

Alberto Aviles, 52, was tried for 1) two counts of indecent liberties with a child, 2) two counts of first degree sex offense of a child, and 3) first degree rape of a child. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty*. The Honorable Eric L. Levinson, Superior Court Judge, sentenced Aviles to 317-399 months in prison, followed by an additional 16-20 months in prison; that 16-20 month sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 6 months of intensive supervised probation and 30 months of supervised probation.

James Powell, 24, was tried for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty*. The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge, sentenced Powell to 14-17 months in prison.

Frank Jones, 56, was tried for 1) two counts of assault with a deadly weapon on a government official and 2) resisting a public officer. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* on the charge of resisting a public officer; he was found *not guilty* of the felony. Judge Bell sentenced Jones to 2 days in jail.

Three defendants pled guilty before their cases were called for trial:

Sherron Payne, 17, pled guilty to two counts of felony sex offense in a parental role. Judge Levinson sentenced Payne to 40-66 months in prison.

Paul Stroud, 24, pled guilty to three counts of Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon. Judge Bell sentenced Stroud to 38-55 months in prison.

Reginald Cherry, 47, pled guilty to common law robbery. Judge Bell sentenced Cherry to 25-30 months in prison.

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