

NEWS RELEASE

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Habitual Felon Team sends 15 defendants to prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team convicted 19 defendants during the week of January 23, 2017. Fifteen 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:

Jamaris Ladell Smith, 27, pled guilty to 1) common law robbery and 2) being a habitual felon. Smith was sentenced to 50-72 months in prison. Smith's prior convictions include felony larceny, breaking or entering a motor vehicle and obtaining property by false pretense.

Ricky Allen Giles, Jr., 42, pled guilty to three counts of larceny from the person. Giles was sentenced to 45-63 months in prison.

Ahkeem Tyron Hardwich, 24, pled guilty to 1) conspiracy to commit felony breaking or entering and 2) being a habitual felon. Hardwich was sentenced to 41-59 months in prison. Hardwich's prior convictions include attempted common law robbery, felony breaking or entering and larceny of a motor vehicle.

Leslie Juan Sanchez, 38, pled guilty to 1) possession of cocaine and 2) being a habitual felon. Sanchez was sentenced to 38-58 months in prison. Sanchez's prior convictions include possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine and breaking or entering a motor vehicle.

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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