

NEWS RELEASE

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DA's Habitual Felon Team convicts 27 defendants

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team convicted 27 defendants between January 27 and February 4, 2014, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. During the week of January 27, the defendants entered their guilty pleas before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge. The proceedings were held January 27, January 28 and January 31. Court was closed on January 29 due to inclement weather, and the courtroom was used by the DA's Homicide Team on January 30. On February 4, another defendant entered his guilty plea before The Honorable Richard D. Boner, Superior Court Judge.

Among those convicted were:

Daniel Geddings, 45, pled guilty to 1) breaking or entering, 2) larceny after breaking or entering and 3) being a habitual felon. Geddings was sentenced to 78-106 months in prison. In July 2013, Geddings and an accomplice were caught on surveillance camera when they broke into a storage shed at a Charlotte apartment complex and stole tools. Two days later, the pair broke into a home on Archdale Drive in Charlotte and stole more tools, including a circular saw and a chainsaw. They were later captured on camera selling the stolen items at local pawn shops. Geddings' co-defendant previously pled guilty to charges related to the incident. Geddings' conviction history includes multiple counts of breaking or entering. He has also previously served a sentence as a habitual felon.

Michael Oliver, 34, pled guilty to 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon, 3) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 4) being a habitual felon. Judge Boner sentenced Oliver to 70-96 months in prison.

Ellison Massey, 48, pled guilty to trafficking in cocaine. Massey was sentenced to 70-93 months in prison. Some of Massey's prior convictions include possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine, selling cocaine and breaking or entering.

Anthony Lucas, 39, pled guilty to 1) two counts of breaking or entering and 2) being a habitual felon. Lucas was sentenced to 58-82 months in prison. Lucas' previous convictions include multiple counts of breaking or entering.

Travis Robinson, 24, pled guilty to 1) common law robbery and 2) being a habitual felon. Robinson was sentenced to 50-72 months in prison.

James Givens, 53, pled guilty to 1) breaking or entering, 2) larceny after breaking or entering and 3) being a habitual breaking or entering status offender. Givens was sentenced to 40-60 months in prison.

Gene Smith, 29, pled guilty to trafficking in cocaine. Smith was sentenced to 35-42 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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