

NEWS RELEASE

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Heroin traffickers among 63 defendants convicted by DA's Drug Team

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Team convicted 63 defendants during the week of January 26, 2015. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Martin B. McGee, Superior Court Judge. The convictions were for crimes that included possessing, selling and trafficking in illegal drugs. Based on the structured sentencing laws in North Carolina, sentences ranged from probation to active prison sentences.

Among the defendants who pled guilty and were sent to prison were:

Francisca Maldonado-Alvarado, 52, pled guilty to 1) trafficking in heroin by sale and 2) trafficking in heroin by possession. Maldonado-Alvarado was sentenced to 90-120 months in prison. On July 31, 2014, Maldonado-Alvarado sold heroin to an undercover Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officer. Police located additional heroin in her purse and her home.

Clarence Frazier, 22, pled guilty to 1) trafficking in heroin by sale and 2) selling heroin. Frazier was sentenced to 70-93 months in prison.

Demario Lowery, 26, pled guilty to trafficking in heroin by sale. Lowery was sentenced to 70-93 months in prison.

Roberto Limon, 42, pled guilty to trafficking in heroin by transportation. Limon was sentenced to 70-93 months in prison.

Justin Coble, 26, pled guilty to 1) sale of MDMC and 2) possession with the intent to sell or deliver MDMC. Coble was sentenced to 10-21 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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