District Attorney's Office
State of North Carolina
26th Prosecutorial District
Mecklenburg County

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

CHARMECKDA.COM

NEWS RELEASE

February 17, 2014

Armed robbers among 37 convicted by DA's Crimes Against Persons Team

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Persons Team convicted 37 defendants February 3-7, 2014, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge.

Among those convicted and sent to prison were:

Darion Byers, 21, pled guilty to 1) attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) robbery with a dangerous weapon. Byers was sentenced to 51-74 months in prison.

Tomas Maradiaga, 25, pled guilty to discharging a weapon into occupied property. Maradiaga was sentenced to 48-70 months in prison.

Keith Simpson, 47, pled guilty to 1) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Simpson was sentenced to 43-73 months in prison.

Willie Shider, 26, pled guilty to attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon. Shider was sentenced to 38-58 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.

// End //