

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

February 25, 2011

38 violent felons convicted, including 2 for attempted rape

Thirty-eight defendants pled guilty in Mecklenburg County Superior Court before the Honorable H. William Constangy, Superior Court Judge. The defendants entered guilty pleas in administrative courtroom 5350 from Monday, February 14 through Friday, February 18, 2011. Among them were:

Jeremiah Bennett, 54, pled guilty to attempted first degree rape of a child. Bennett was sentenced to 200-249 months in prison.

Barry Maxwell, 44, pled guilty to attempted first degree rape of a child. Maxwell was sentenced to 108-139 months in prison.

Eric Wright, 41, pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and he admitted his status as an habitual felon. Wright was sentenced to 101-131 months in prison.

Abram Goodwin, 27, pled guilty to 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) first degree burglary, 3) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and 4) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. Goodwin was sentenced to 51-71 months in prison.

Cory Johnson, 25, pled guilty to ten counts of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and ten counts of assault with a deadly weapon on a law enforcement officer. Johnson was sentenced to 50-78 months in prison. Johnson was also sentenced to an additional 25-39 months in prison, suspended for 36 months of supervised probation following his active sentence.

Dion Williams, 20, pled guilty to 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon, 3) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon and 4) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. Williams was sentenced to 44-62 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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