

NEWS RELEASE

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Jury convicts man of attempted murder

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – A jury's guilty verdict has sent a defendant to prison for shooting a man in the chest at close range. The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Violent Crimes Team tried two defendants charged in unrelated attempted murder cases during trial sessions that began February 18, 2019. The proceedings were held in courtrooms 5110 and 5130 before The Honorable Jessie B. Caldwell, III, and The Honorable Donnie Hoover, Superior Court Judges.

Lorenza Inman, 31, was tried for 1) attempted first-degree murder, 2) assault with a deadly weapon with the intent to kill inflicting serious injury, 3) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 4) attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon. At the close of the State's evidence, Judge Caldwell dismissed the charge of attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon. The jury then found him *guilty* of attempted first-degree murder, assault with a deadly weapon with the intent to kill inflicting serious injury and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Judge Caldwell sentenced Inman to 157-210 months in prison.

In April 2017, in broad daylight, Inman followed the victim to a shopping center on West Sugar Creek Road in Charlotte. Once there, Inman confronted the victim and shot him in the chest at close range. As the victim fell to the ground, Inman stood over him and fired several more rounds at the victim. Detectives with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department took the victim's statement from his hospital bed, and he identified Inman as his attacker. The assault was also captured by nearby surveillance cameras. When officers arrested Inman the next day, he was still wearing the same distinctive outfit shown on video. Inman contacted the victim shortly before trial and pressured the victim to recant.

Carlos Manzanares, 29, was tried for 1) attempted first-degree murder, 2) conspiracy to commit first-degree murder, 3) two counts of assault with a deadly weapon with the intent to kill inflicting serious injury and 4) first-degree burglary. After a nearly two-week trial, the jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict. As a result, Judge Hoover declared a mistrial.

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