

NEWS RELEASE

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Jury convicts man of felony assault; 2 defendants plead guilty after trials begin

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – A jury recently found a man guilty of felony assault, and two other defendants charged with violent crimes entered guilty pleas after their trials began in Superior Court. Another four defendants pled guilty when their cases were called for trial. The proceedings, which were led by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Persons Team, were held February 20-28, 2017, in courtrooms 5110 and 5370 before The Honorable Eric L. Levinson and The Honorable Forrest D. Bridges, Superior Court Judges.

Juharold Vann, 22, was tried for assault with a deadly weapon with the intent to kill inflicting serious injury. The jury found him *guilty*. Judge Bridges sentenced Vann to 70-96 months in prison.

[Brandon Brewer](#), 30, was tried for 1) three counts of attempted first-degree murder, 2) three counts of assault with a deadly weapon with the intent to kill inflicting serious injury, 3) two counts of assault with a firearm on a law enforcement officer, 4) five counts of discharging a firearm into an occupied dwelling, 5) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 6) being a violent habitual felon. After testimony from the State's first witness, Brewer pled guilty to two counts of attempted first-degree murder, assault with a deadly weapon with the intent to kill inflicting serious injury, two counts of assault with a firearm on a law enforcement officer, five counts of discharging a firearm into an occupied dwelling and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Judge Levinson sentenced Brewer to 445-571 months in prison.

Steve Kirkpatrick, 62, was tried for robbery with a dangerous weapon. Before the conclusion of jury selection, Kirkpatrick pled guilty to common law robbery. Judge Levinson sentenced Kirkpatrick to 14-26 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 22 months of supervised probation.

Luis Nazar-Gomez, 21, pled guilty to second-degree rape. Judge Bridges sentenced Nazar-Gomez to 58-130 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Nazar-Gomez must register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

Alexander Brown, 28, pled guilty to 1) felony flee to elude arrest with a motor vehicle, 2) reckless driving, 3) driving while license revoked, 4) misdemeanor hit and run and 5) misdemeanor possession of marijuana. Judge Levinson sentenced Brown to 8-19 months in prison.

Evan Hager, 33, pled guilty to felony serious injury by vehicle. Judge Levinson sentenced Hager to 16-29 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful

completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Hager must serve 7 months in custody.

Derek Drummer, 29, pled guilty to 1) felony flee to elude arrest with a motor vehicle, 2) misdemeanor possession of marijuana, 3) possession of drug paraphernalia and 4) injury to personal property. Judge Levinson sentenced Drummer to 4-14 months in prison.

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