

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

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Domestic violence offender pleads guilty mid-trial; 8 others convicted

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During the week of March 10, 2014, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Domestic Violence Team convicted one defendant who decided to plead guilty during trial, as well as eight others who pled guilty before or when their cases were called for trial. The proceedings were held in courtrooms 5170 and 5370 before The Honorable H. William Constangy and The Honorable Nathaniel J. Poovey, Superior Court Judges.

Robert McCall, 53, was tried for 1) attempted first-degree murder, 2) assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury and 3) violation of a domestic violence protective order. Before the trial began, Judge Poovey granted McCall's motion to dismiss the domestic violence protective order violation. After selecting a jury and hearing testimony from the State's first three witnesses, McCall decided to plead guilty to attempted first-degree murder and assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury. Judge Poovey sentenced McCall to 219-275 months in prison. In January 2012, the victim went outside her home to warm up her car as she prepared to go to work. That's when McCall, her ex-boyfriend, appeared from his hiding place between nearby vehicles and cut the victim's throat. He also stabbed her in the shoulder before fleeing. The victim sought help from a neighbor, quickly received medical attention and survived.

The following eight defendants pled guilty before or when their cases were called for trial:

Joel McKinnon, 56, pled guilty to assault inflicting serious bodily injury. McKinnon was sentenced to 15-27 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, McKinnon must serve 119 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Clayton Crawford, 48, pled guilty to felony habitual misdemeanor assault. Crawford was sentenced to 8-19 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation.

Virginia Sanders, 32, pled guilty to contributing to the delinquency of a minor. She was sentenced to 45 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Marvin Alexander, 57, pled guilty to 1) assault on a female and 2) misdemeanor larceny. Alexander was sentenced to 150 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Holden O'Brien, 23, pled guilty to assault on a female. O'Brien was sentenced to 150 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending the successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Michael Raymer, 45, pled guilty to two counts of assault on a female. Raymer was sentenced to 75 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Raymer must serve 30 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Benton Jones, 50, pled guilty to assault on a female. He was sentenced to 60 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending the successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Rene Vasquez, 36, pled guilty to assault on a female. Vasquez was sentenced to 60 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit www.charmeckda.com. For updates and other information, "like" the DA's Office on Facebook at www.facebook.com/charmeckda and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.

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