

NEWS RELEASE

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Habitual felon among 7 defendants convicted of domestic violence crimes

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Domestic Violence Team recently convicted seven defendants, including a habitual felon who fired gunshots at a woman. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge, during the week of March 20, 2017.

Jordan Forston, 28, pled guilty to 1) being a habitual felon, 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 3) assault with a deadly weapon. Forston was sentenced to 96-128 months in prison. In August 2016, the victim was in her vehicle in Charlotte when Forston fired gunshots at her. The victim was not injured. Firearms in Forston's possession were later seized by police. A DNA analysis of the weapons revealed DNA that matched that of Forston.

Ojarrey Williams, 29, pled guilty to felony habitual misdemeanor assault. Williams was sentenced to 19-32 months in prison.

Dezon Gill, 28, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) assault by pointing a gun. Gill was sentenced to 15-27 months in prison.

Robert Ausbrooks, 56, pled guilty to assault by strangulation. Ausbrooks was sentenced to 8-19 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As conditions of his probation, Ausbrooks must serve 20 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail, complete a certified intervention program for batterers and undergo a substance abuse assessment and comply with any treatment recommendations.

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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