

NEWS RELEASE

Spencer B. Merriweather III
District Attorney

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Child molester convicted by a jury

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – A man who molested a child was sentenced to at least 14 years in prison after a jury found him guilty of his crimes. The trial was held March 19-23, 2018, in courtroom 5130 before The Honorable Gregory R. Hayes, Superior Court Judge.

The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Special Victims Team tried Richard Sneed, 57, for 1) two counts of indecent liberties with a child and 2) being a habitual felon. On March 23, 2018, the jury found him *guilty* of two counts of indecent liberties with a child. After the jury's verdict, Sneed admitted his status as a habitual felon. Judge Hayes then sentenced him to a total of 173-233 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, he must register as a sex offender for 30 years.



Richard Sneed

In June 2017, Sneed cornered the 10-year-old victim in a bedroom while her mother was away at work. Sneed had been temporarily staying at the home. He kissed the girl on the mouth and forced his hand in her underwear. The victim immediately grabbed her phone and escaped, running from the apartment as she called police for help.

Sneed was accused of assaulting an 11-year-old girl in Beaufort County, North Carolina in a similar fashion in 2013. Mecklenburg County prosecutors brought the victim in that case – now 16 years old – to testify, establishing Sneed's pattern of behavior.

Both young victims showed courage beyond their years while taking the stand and confronting their abuser at trial. Their testimony ensured that other children will be protected from this sex offender.

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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