

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
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36 violent felons convicted, including one habitual felon

Thirty-six defendants pled guilty in Mecklenburg County Superior Court before the Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge. The defendants entered guilty pleas in administrative courtroom 5350 from Monday, March 14, through Friday, March 18, 2011. Among them were:

Jamel Cassell, 32, pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Cassell was sentenced to 23-37 months in prison.

Anthony Smith, 24, pled guilty to robbery with a dangerous weapon and assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. Smith was sentenced to 84-120 months in prison.

Jose Laurius, 37, pled guilty to taking indecent liberties with a child. Laurius was sentenced to 12-15 months in prison and he must register as a sex offender.

Mario Collins, 39, pled guilty to two counts of common law robbery and possession of cocaine. Collins admitted his status as a habitual felon and was sentenced to 117-150 months in prison.

Terrence Jones, 23, pled guilty to 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) breaking or entering a motor vehicle, 3) injury to personal property and 4) misdemeanor larceny. Jones was sentenced to 51-71 months in prison.

Glenn Jackson, 48, pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Jackson was sentenced to 15-18 months in prison.

Carlos Mendez, 50, pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and assault on a female. Mendez was sentenced to 23-28 months in prison, suspended for 36 months of supervised probation with 103 days to be served in the county jail before probation supervision begins.

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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