

NEWS RELEASE

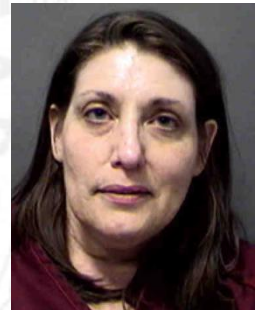
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5 defendants convicted of property crimes during trial week

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Property Team recently convicted five defendants of crimes ranging from breaking or entering to corporate malfeasance. The team called cases for trial March 18-22, 2013, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court before The Honorable Robert T. Sumner and The Honorable C. Thomas Edwards, Superior Court Judges.

Kristine Yurchison, 45, was tried for 1) nine counts of corporate malfeasance, 2) eight counts of forgery and 3) one count of felony larceny. Judge Edwards dismissed the larceny charge at the conclusion of the State's evidence. The jury returned *guilty* verdicts for eight counts of corporate malfeasance and eight counts of forgery. The jury returned a verdict of *not guilty* on one count of corporate malfeasance. Judge Edwards sentenced Yurchison to 10-12 months in prison; that sentence was suspended for 36 months of supervised probation. As a condition of her probation, Yurchison must serve 30 days in the Mecklenburg County jail. She was also ordered to pay more than \$7,000 in restitution to the victim. From 2007 to 2008, Yurchison worked as an office manager for the Charlotte company JW Blair and Associates, where her duties included managing business accounting and paying bills. She was fired in November 2008, and an audit later revealed that, while she was an employee, Yurchison had used the company credit card to purchase items from Pottery Barn and that she had repeatedly forged the business owner's signature on company checks to pay off her personal Target credit card. Yurchison has prior convictions for retail theft, as well as possession of heroin.



Kristine Yurchison

Christopher Lamont Smith, 23, was tried for two counts of uttering a forged instrument. The jury found him *guilty* on both counts. Smith was sentenced to 6-8 months in prison; that sentence was suspended for 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Smith must serve 13 days in the Mecklenburg County jail and pay restitution.

Deangelo Wright, 19, was tried for breaking or entering. Judge Sumner declared a mistrial.

Three defendants pled guilty when their cases were called for trial:

Jaylan Lewis, 18, pled guilty to 1) breaking or entering and 2) larceny after breaking or entering. Lewis was sentenced to 5-15 months in prison; that sentence was suspended for 18 months of supervised probation.

Kevin Thompson, 21, pled guilty to uttering a forged instrument. Thompson was sentenced to 4-5 months in prison; that sentence was suspended for 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Thompson must serve 48 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Troy Piellucci, 51, pled guilty to uttering a forged instrument. Piellucci was sentenced to 120 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. Piellucci was also ordered to pay restitution.

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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