

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

April 7, 2015

4 defendants convicted of property offenses

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Four defendants pled guilty to property crimes in Mecklenburg County Superior Court during the week of March 30, 2015. The defendants, who were prosecuted by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Property Team, entered their guilty pleas in courtrooms 5370 and 5350 before The Honorable Gregory R. Hayes and The Honorable Lisa C. Bell, Superior Court Judges.

Michael Cornwell, 19, pled guilty to 1) second-degree burglary and 2) felony breaking or entering. Cornwell was sentenced to 10-21 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Cornwell must serve 60 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Mele Tonga, 54, pled guilty to 1) seven counts of obtaining property by false pretense and 2) five counts of felony breaking or entering. Tonga was sentenced to 6-17 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 24 months of unsupervised probation. As a condition of her probation, Tonga must serve 105 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Sterling Gabriel, 43, pled guilty to obtaining property by false pretense. Gabriel was sentenced to 10-21 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 60 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Gabriel must pay the victim \$61,217.20 in restitution.

Dionta Inman, 24, pled guilty to misdemeanor possession of stolen goods. Inman was sentenced to 30 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

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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