

NEWS RELEASE

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DA's Drug Team tries drug cases, convicts 8 defendants

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Prosecution Team tried three defendants and convicted six others who pled guilty when their cases were called for trial during the week of April 22-26, 2013, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. The proceedings were held before The Honorable Lindsay R. Davis, Jr., and The Honorable C. Thomas Edwards, Superior Court Judges.

Marquise Bailey, 30, was tried for 1) sale of cocaine and 2) possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* as charged. Judge Edwards sentenced Bailey to 15-18 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation. As one of the conditions of his probation, Bailey must serve 45 days in the Mecklenburg County jail. In December 2010, undercover Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officers purchased crack cocaine from Bailey.



Marquise Bailey

Donqus McSwain, 19, was tried for 1) possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana and 2) possession of drug paraphernalia. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* as charged. Judge Edwards sentenced McSwain to 6-17 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Raymond Starr, 31, was tried for felony possession of cocaine. After the jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict, Judge Davis declared a mistrial.

Six defendants pled guilty before their cases were called for trial:

Rosendo Rivas, 22, pled guilty to trafficking in heroin by possession. Judge Edwards sentenced Rivas to 90-117 months in prison.

Juan Torres Zavala, 33, pled guilty to 1) trafficking in cocaine by possession and 2) felony maintaining a dwelling to keep or sell a controlled substance. Judge Edwards sentenced Zavala to 70-84 months in prison for the trafficking offense. Zavala was sentenced to an additional 4-6 months in prison for the maintaining a dwelling offense; that sentence was suspended pending Zavala's successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Paige Mayfield, 21, pled guilty to sale of cocaine. Judge Edwards sentenced Mayfield to 10-21 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of her probation, Mayfield must serve 30 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Winter McCotter, 36, pled guilty to attempted trafficking in marijuana by possession. Judge Edwards sentenced McCotter to 5-6 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

James Hallman, 27, pled guilty to 1) possession of heroin and 2) possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Edwards sentenced Hallman to 6-8 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation.

Donald Clinton, 25, pled guilty to felony possession of marijuana. Judge Davis sentenced Clinton to 6-17 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 36 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Clinton must serve 127 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

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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