

NEWS RELEASE

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DA's Habitual Felon Team sends 17 defendants to prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team convicted 20 defendants April 21-25, 2014, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. Seventeen of those defendants were sent to prison; some were not habitual felons under North Carolina law. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Hugh B. Lewis and The Honorable Yvonne Mims Evans, Superior Court Judges.

Among those convicted were:

Jamil Owens, 30, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) breaking or entering a motor vehicle and 3) being a habitual felon. Owens was sentenced to 66-91 months in prison. Some of Owens' prior convictions include breaking or entering a motor vehicle and multiple counts of possession of a stolen motor vehicle.

Landon Morrison, 27, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) being a habitual felon. Morrison was sentenced to 58-82 months in prison. Some of Morrison's prior convictions include breaking or entering and possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine.

Quency McVay, 22, pled guilty to 1) breaking or entering a motor vehicle and 2) being a habitual felon. McVay was sentenced to 20-36 months in prison. Some of McVay's prior convictions include larceny of a motor vehicle, possession of a stolen motor vehicle and breaking or entering.

Reginald Burns, 42, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Burns was sentenced to 20-33 months in prison.

Norman Rowell, 53, pled guilty to two counts of habitual misdemeanor larceny. Rowell was sentenced to 20-33 months in prison. Rowell has a prior conviction for common law robbery and multiple convictions of larceny.

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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