

NEWS RELEASE

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72 convicted in Superior Court for drug offenses; traffickers go to prison

CHARLOTTE, NC – The week of April 25, 2011, the DA's Drug Prosecution Team convicted 72 defendants in Courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Hugh B. Lewis, Superior Court Judge. Convictions were for crimes that included possession of illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia that is used to store and ingest drugs, and the trafficking of illegal drugs. Based on the structured sentencing laws in North Carolina, sentences ranged from probation to the prison sentences of these drug traffickers:

Ivan Carillo-Martinez, age 29, pled guilty to one count of trafficking in heroin and was sentenced to 90-117 months in prison and fined \$100,000.

Aldaberto Chavez, age 29, pled guilty to 1) conspiracy to traffic in cocaine and 2) two counts of attempted trafficking in cocaine. Chavez was sentenced to 100-120 months in prison and fined \$100,000.

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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