

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

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Juries convict 3 defendants tried by Habitual Felon Team; 2 others plead guilty

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Mecklenburg County juries convicted each of the three defendants recently tried by the District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team. Two additional defendants pled guilty when their cases were called for trial. The proceedings were held in courtrooms 5110 and 5370 before The Honorable Casey M. Viser and The Honorable Nathaniel J. Poovey, Superior Court Judges, during the week of May 1, 2017.

Manno Heshumi Beam, 36, was tried for 1) possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine, 2) misdemeanor possession of marijuana and 3) being a habitual felon. A jury found Beam *guilty* of the lesser-included offense of possession of cocaine, misdemeanor possession of marijuana and being a habitual felon. Judge Poovey sentenced Beam to 34-53 months in prison. Beam's prior convictions include multiple counts of possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and common law robbery.

Ferrante Vermond Perry, 43, was tried for 1) possession of cocaine and 2) being a habitual felon. A jury found Perry *guilty* as charged. Judge Viser sentenced Perry to 48-70 months in prison. Perry's prior convictions include common law robbery, accessory after the fact to robbery with a dangerous weapon and selling marijuana.

Demond Monteith Ford, 39, was tried for 1) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury, 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 3) being a habitual felon. A jury found Ford *guilty* of the lesser-included offense of misdemeanor assault inflicting serious injury and *not guilty* of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Because the jury did not convict Ford of a felony offense, the State was unable to proceed on the habitual felon charge. Judge Viser sentenced Ford to 150 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

When called for trial, Antoine Devonte Young, 30, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) two counts of discharging a firearm into occupied property and 3) being a habitual felon. Judge Viser sentenced Young to 60-84 months in prison. Young's prior convictions include possession of cocaine, selling marijuana and possession with the intent to sell or deliver marijuana.

When called for trial, Bobby Jonquise Abraham, 28, pled guilty to 1) attempted trafficking in cocaine, 2) two counts of possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine, 3) possession with the intent to sell or deliver marijuana, 4) felony possession of marijuana, 5) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 6) assault on a government official, 7) possession of a stolen motor vehicle and 8) felony fleeing to elude arrest. Judge Poovey sentenced Abraham to 13-25 months in prison. Abraham also admitted to violating the terms of his probation for a previous

conviction. For the probation violation, Judge Poovey sentenced Abraham to 12-24 months in prison, which will run consecutively to the first sentence. Abraham did not qualify as a habitual felon under North Carolina law.

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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