

NEWS RELEASE

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May 13, 2014

Jury's guilty verdict sends domestic violence offender to prison; 16 others plead guilty

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – One domestic violence offender was convicted at trial, and 16 others pled guilty during the week of May 5, 2014. The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Domestic Violence Team prosecuted the cases in courtrooms 5170 and 5370 before The Honorable Hugh B. Lewis and The Honorable Richard D. Boner, Superior Court Judges.

Deshawn Clipper, 26, was tried for 1) assault by strangulation, 2) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury, 3) two counts of assault inflicting serious bodily injury, 4) two counts of habitual misdemeanor assault and 5) two counts of communicating threats. Because the charges stemmed from two separate but related incidents, the State filed a motion to join the cases for trial. Judge Lewis granted the motion. Based on evidence presented at trial, the State pursued charges best supported by the evidence and dismissed one count of assault inflicting serious bodily injury at the close of the State's evidence. The jury found Clipper *guilty* of assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury, one count of assault inflicting serious bodily injury and one count of habitual misdemeanor assault. The jury found him *not guilty* of the remaining charges. Judge Lewis sentenced Clipper to 41-62 months in prison. In April 2013, Clipper went to his ex-girlfriend's room at a Charlotte hotel. He then attacked her, retaliating because she'd called the police in a previous domestic violence incident that led to his arrest the month before. Clipper stabbed her in the hand as she raised her arm in defense.

The following 16 defendants pled guilty:

David Crenshaw, 42, pled guilty to 1) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and 2) assault inflicting serious bodily injury. Crawford was sentenced to 88-115 months in prison.

Edward Douglas, 45, pled guilty to 1) first-degree burglary and 2) violation of a domestic violence protective order. Douglas was sentenced to 72-99 months in prison.

Raymond McBride, 37, pled guilty to 1) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. McBride was sentenced to 55-78 months in prison.

Anthony Halley, 27, pled guilty to 1) assault on a female, 2) assault inflicting serious injury and 3) communicating threats. Halley was sentenced to 150 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Marquis Holland, 21, pled guilty to 1) assault on a female and 2) false imprisonment. Holland was sentenced to 120 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Leroy Howard, 37, pled guilty to 1) assault on a female and 2) misdemeanor larceny. Howard was sentenced to 75 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Dontae Cheek, 32, pled guilty to assault by strangulation. He was sentenced to 10-21 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Cheek must serve 60 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Michael Sylvester, 22, pled guilty to two counts of assault on a female. He was sentenced to 150 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Derek Nelson, 36, pled guilty to assault on a female. He was sentenced to 150 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Brandon Poole, 20, pled guilty to two counts of assault on a female. He was sentenced to 120 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Peter Swan, 48, pled guilty to assault on a female. He was sentenced to 75 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Timothy Langenfeld, 35, pled guilty to 1) assault on a female and 2) misdemeanor breaking or entering. He was sentenced to 60 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Corey Robinson, 32, pled guilty to assault on a female. He was sentenced to 60 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Dennis Braxton, 31, pled guilty to violation of a domestic violence protective order. He was sentenced to 60 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Kent Stauffer, 54, pled guilty to two counts of assault on a female. He was sentenced to 30 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Jack Schofield, 18, pled guilty to simple assault. He was sentenced to 30 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 12 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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