

NEWS RELEASE

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Trials lead to convictions of 2 drug offenders

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Juries convicted two defendants of drug crimes, and two other defendants pled guilty before their cases were called for trial during the week of May 4, 2015. The cases were prosecuted by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Team in Mecklenburg County Superior Court before The Honorable Linwood O. Foust, Superior Court Judge.

Justin Gadson, 27, was tried for 1) possession with the intent to sell or deliver marijuana and 2) felony possession of marijuana. The jury found Gadson *guilty* of felony possession of marijuana and *not guilty* of possession with the intent to sell or deliver marijuana. Judge Foust sentenced Gadson to 5-15 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, Gadson must serve 30 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Damon Garrison, 49, was tried for 1) felony maintaining a dwelling for drug purposes, 2) manufacturing marijuana, 3) possession of drug paraphernalia and 4) misdemeanor possession of marijuana. The jury found Garrison *guilty* as charged. Judge Foust sentenced Garrison to 4-14 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 12 months of supervised probation.

Herbert Jennings, 29, pled guilty to possession of cocaine. Jennings was sentenced to 6-17 months in prison.

Christian Welch, 32, pled guilty to possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine. Welch was sentenced to 8-19 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 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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