

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Man sentenced to 28-36 years in prison for 21-year-old's murder

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Davonta Turner, 20, was sentenced to approximately 28-36 years in prison after pleading guilty today to the 2012 murder of Michael Shull, 21. Turner entered his guilty plea in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Richard D. Boner, Superior Court Judge.

Turner pled guilty to 1) second-degree murder, 2) robbery with a dangerous weapon and 3) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. He was sentenced to a total of 336-440 months in prison.

On December 21, 2012, Turner conspired with Ashley Owens and Aveance Bryant to rob Mr. Shull, who was deaf. They knew Mr. Shull through his girlfriend, and they'd learned that he'd been paid that day.

Bryant convinced Mr. Shull's girlfriend to get out of his truck so that Turner could get in, and then Mr. Shull drove a short distance away on Crestdale Drive in Charlotte. That's when Turner, who did not know sign language, handed Mr. Shull a note indicating that he was being robbed. Turner then stabbed Mr. Shull multiple times and fled in a waiting car with Bryant and Owens. Mr. Shull died at the scene.

Owens, 20, and Bryant, 20, each previously pled guilty to robbery with a dangerous weapon and conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. Today, Owens was sentenced to 59-83 months in prison, and Bryant was sentenced to 51-74 months in prison.



Davonta Turner

*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](http://www.charmeckda.com).*

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