

NEWS RELEASE

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Robbers among 5 tried by Crimes Against Persons Team; 3 others plead guilty

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Persons Team tried five defendants May 12-21, 2014, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. Three other defendants pled guilty. The proceedings were held before The Honorable Richard D. Boner, The Honorable Nathaniel J. Poovey, and The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judges.

Quivonte Blount, 19, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) assault by pointing a gun. Based on evidence presented at trial, the State pursued charges best supported by the evidence and dismissed the charge of assault by pointing a gun at the close of the State's evidence. The jury found Blount *guilty* of robbery with a dangerous weapon. Judge Boner sentenced Blount to 60-84 months in prison.

Dequan Chambers, 20, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The jury found Chambers *guilty* of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and the lesser-included offense of common law robbery. Poovey sentenced Chambers to 14-26 months in prison. Judge Poovey also sentenced him to an additional 14-26 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 36 months of supervised probation. Chambers must wear an electronic monitor for the first 90 days of his probation.

L.C. Melton, III, 26, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. When the jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict, Judge Boner declared a mistrial.

Burl Yates, 28, was tried for robbery with a dangerous weapon. The jury found him *not guilty*.

Edward Grant, 18, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon and 3) assault with a deadly weapon. The jury found him *not guilty*.

Demarques Mungo, 18, pled guilty to assault inflicting serious bodily injury. He was sentenced to 16-29 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation.

Victor Gutierrez, 36, pled guilty to 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon and 3) second-degree kidnapping. He was sentenced to 63-88 months in prison.

Grady Lenard Walker, Jr., 39, filed motions to dismiss charges and to suppress certain evidence seized or obtained by law enforcement, alleging violations of his legal rights. After hearing testimony and arguments from the defense and the Assistant District Attorney, Judge Bell denied both motions. Walker then decided to plead guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Judge Bell sentenced Walker to 13-25 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 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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