

# NEWS RELEASE

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**R. Andrew Murray**  
District Attorney

**June 5, 2012**

## **Twenty-eight convicted of drug offenses**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During the week of May 21, 2012, the DA's Drug Prosecution Team convicted twenty-eight defendants in Courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Yvonne Mims Evans, Superior Court Judge. The convictions were for crimes that included possessing, selling, and trafficking in illegal drugs. Based on the structured sentencing laws in North Carolina, sentences ranged from probation to Paul Stewart's prison sentence of 6-17 months for attempted trafficking in marijuana.

*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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