

NEWS RELEASE

Spencer B. Merriweather III
District Attorney

June 17, 2019

Jury convicts man of felony assault

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During a two-week trial session, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Violent Crimes Team tried and convicted a man of a felony assault. The team also tried another defendant before a jury. Two additional defendants entered guilty pleas. The proceedings, which began June 3, 2019, were held in courtrooms 5110 and 5130 before The Honorable Donnie Hoover and The Honorable Casey M. Viser, Superior Court Judges.

Ian Callahan, 23, was tried for assault inflicting serious bodily injury. In December 2016, the victim attended a Christmas party hosted by his girlfriend. As the victim was leaving the party, he and his girlfriend got into a verbal argument. Callahan, the brother of the girlfriend, confronted the victim in the front yard of the residence, pushing him and telling him to leave. An eyewitness testified that Callahan escalated the confrontation, physically taking the victim down a hill in the front yard. Callahan then slammed the victim in the street whereupon the victim struck his head on the pavement. When first responders arrived, they found the victim unresponsive in the street. He was rushed to a local hospital where he underwent emergency surgery to treat a severe brain bleed. The victim survived but suffered a catastrophic brain injury that left him with permanent mental and physical disabilities. At trial, Callahan argued self-defense and defense of premises. After a nearly two-week trial, the jury returned a verdict of *guilty* as charged. Judge Hoover then sentenced Callahan in the mitigated range with a sentence of 11-23 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. Judge Hoover ordered Callahan to perform 100 hours of community service and also ordered that Callahan may be transferred to unsupervised probation after 6 months if Callahan is in compliance with the court's order.

Angelo Meadows, 33, was tried for forging/submitting under false pretenses the information/verification notices required of a sex offender. The jury found Meadows *not guilty*.

Jose Garcia-Flores, 51, pled guilty to driving while impaired. Judge Hoover sentenced Garcia-Flores to 90 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 12 months of unsupervised probation.

Gerald Beckham, 29, pled guilty to felony fleeing to elude arrest. Judge Viser sentenced Beckham 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.

// End //