

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Crimes Against Persons Team convicts 35 defendants

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Persons Team convicted 35 defendants May 30-June 2, 2017, in Superior Court. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge. Court was not held on May 29, 2017, in observance of Memorial Day.

Among those convicted and sent to prison were:

Nicolas Vasquez, 41, pled guilty to 1) two counts of first-degree sex offense with a child and 2) indecent liberties with a child. Vasquez was sentenced to 288-466 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Vasquez must register as a sex offender for 30 years.

Olvin Rivera-Lopez pled guilty to three counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon. Rivera-Lopez was sentenced to 58-82 months in prison.

Mark Currie, 18, pled guilty to two counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon. Currie was sentenced to 51-74 months in prison.

Raquaze Hood, 19, pled guilty to 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) assault on a law enforcement officer inflicting injury. Hood was sentenced to 51-74 months in prison.

*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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