

NEWS RELEASE

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48 criminals plead guilty to property crimes

CHARLOTTE, NC – The District Attorney's Office convicted forty-eight defendants for committing property crimes against the citizens of Mecklenburg County. The Honorable Robert T. Sumner was the presiding Superior Court Judge for the arraignments of these defendants during the week of Monday, June 13, 2011, to Friday, June 17, 2011, in courtroom 5350. Among those convicted were:

Travarus Sturdivant, 29, pled guilty to: (1) first-degree burglary, (2) four counts of felony breaking and entering, and (3) five counts of felony larceny after breaking and entering. He was sentenced to 82-108 months in prison.

Travis Stradford, 17, pled guilty to: (1) second-degree burglary, and (2) two counts of felony breaking and entering. Stradford was sentenced to 5-6 months in prison. Furthermore, Judge Sumner sentenced him to an intermediate sentence that he must complete after he is released from prison. The intermediate sentence includes two consecutive suspended sentences totaling 16-21 months; he was placed on 36 months of supervised probation and ordered to pay full restitution to the victim during his period of probation.

James Logan, 26, pled guilty to: (1) five counts of felony breaking and entering, (2) five counts of larceny after breaking and entering, and (3) one count of breaking and entering a motor vehicle. He was sentenced to 22-28 months in prison.

Zachary Berryhill, 24, pled guilty to: (1) three counts of felony larceny of a motor vehicle, (2) two counts of felony possession of a stolen motor vehicle, and (3) one count of misdemeanor resisting a public officer. He was sentenced to 16-20 months in prison.

James Jones, 28, pled guilty to: (1) four counts of identity theft and (2) one count of obtaining property by false pretense. Judge Sumner sentenced Jones to 15-18 months in prison. Additionally, Judge Sumner sentenced him to an intermediate sentence that he must complete after he is released from prison. The intermediate sentence includes 14-17 months in prison, that sentence is suspended for 36 months of supervised probation provided he serves an additional 30 days in jail. He was also ordered to pay restitution to the victim during his period of probation.

Allen Carpenter, 50, pled guilty to: (1) felony breaking and entering and (2) misdemeanor assault on a government official. He was sentenced to 12-15 months in prison and ordered to pay restitution to the victim.

Damal Digsby, 22, pled guilty to: (1) two counts of felony breaking and entering and (2) two counts of larceny after breaking and entering. He was sentenced to 10-12 months in prison and ordered to pay restitution to the victim.

Mark Klimczak, 48, pled guilty to: (1) two counts of felony breaking and entering, and (2) misdemeanor resisting a public officer. He was sentenced to 10-12 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.

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