

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

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37 defendants convicted of drug offenses

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Thirty-seven defendants pled guilty to drug crimes during the week of June 15, 2015. The defendants, who were prosecuted by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Team, entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge. Based on the structured sentencing laws in North Carolina, sentences ranged from probation to active prison sentences.

Among the defendants who pled guilty and were sent to prison were:

Joshua Bowman, 28, pled guilty to 1) attempted trafficking in heroin by transportation and 2) attempted trafficking in heroin by possession. Bowman was sentenced to a total of 26-50 months in prison. In June 2014, Charlotte-Mecklenburg police found Bowman to be in possession of several grams of heroin.

Ladarius Johnson, 24, pled guilty to attempted trafficking in heroin by transportation. Johnson was sentenced to 13-25 months in prison.

Joshua Levenson, 44, pled guilty to attempted trafficking in marijuana by possession. Levenson was sentenced to 6-17 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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