

# NEWS RELEASE

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**R. Andrew Murray**  
District Attorney

**July 9, 2012**

## **Twenty habitual felons plead guilty and go to prison**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The DA's Habitual Felon Team convicted twenty-three defendants this month in administrative courtroom 5350; twenty were sentenced to prison. The defendants entered guilty pleas in Mecklenburg County Superior Court before The Honorable Richard D. Boner, Superior Court Judge, on Monday, July 2, Tuesday, July 3 and Friday, July 6, 2012.

Among those convicted were:

Gary Fisher, 43, pled guilty to 1) two counts of felony breaking or entering a motor vehicle and 2) being a habitual felon. Fisher was sentenced to 76-101 months in prison. Fisher's criminal record includes six prior convictions for felony breaking or entering a motor vehicle.

Dontavius Dixon, 29, pled guilty to 1) two counts of selling cocaine and 2) being a habitual felon. Dixon was sentenced to 48-67 months in prison. Some of Dixon's prior convictions include felony possession of a stolen motor vehicle, possession of cocaine, and common law robbery.

Shawn Walker, 36, pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. Walker was sentenced to 47-66 months in prison. Some of Walker's prior convictions include robbery with a dangerous weapon, sell cocaine and assault on a female.

John Hill, 48, pled guilty to 1) three counts of felony breaking or entering a motor vehicle and 2) two counts of misdemeanor larceny. Hill was sentenced to 44-53 months in prison. Hill's criminal record includes seven prior convictions for felony breaking or entering motor vehicles.

Delwin Owens, 46, pled guilty to 1) felony breaking or entering and 2) larceny after breaking or entering. Owens was sentenced to 40-48 months in prison. Some of Owens' prior convictions include attempted common law robbery, larceny from the person, and escape.

Ray Rhinehardt, 44, pled guilty to 1) felony breaking or entering and 2) larceny after breaking or entering. Rhinehardt was sentenced to 40-66 months in prison. Some of Rhinehardt's prior convictions include felony breaking or entering, felony breaking or entering a motor vehicle, and selling cocaine.

Cornell Bridges, 28, pled guilty to felony conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. Bridges was sentenced to 35-51 months in prison. Some of Bridge's prior convictions include felony conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, and felony breaking or entering.

Javon Dickson, 27, pled guilty to second degree burglary. Dickson was sentenced to 27-42 months in prison. Some of Dickson's prior convictions include attempted common law robbery and felony breaking or entering.

Jerod Finley, 44, pled guilty to 1) possession of cocaine with intent to sell or deliver and 2) selling cocaine. Finley was sentenced to 25-39 months in prison. Finley's prior convictions include possession of cocaine and sell cocaine.

Ricky Bynum, 35, pled guilty to 1) two counts of felony breaking or entering a motor vehicle and 2) being a habitual felon. Bynum was sentenced to 26-44 months in prison. Some of Bynum's prior convictions include assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill or inflict serious injury, possession of cocaine with intent to sell or deliver, and felony breaking or entering a motor vehicle.

Reginald White, 52, pled guilty to 1) attempted common law robbery and 2) simple assault. White was sentenced to 25-39 months in prison. Some of White's prior convictions include selling or delivering cocaine, possession of cocaine with intent to sell or deliver, and felony possession of a stolen motor vehicle.

Barbara Torrence, 40, pled guilty to felony obtaining a controlled substance by fraud or forgery. At the defendant's request, Judge Boner continued sentencing until July 6, 2012. The defendant failed to report to court for her sentencing hearing, and as a result, Judge Boner issued an order for her arrest.

*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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