

NEWS RELEASE

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July 19, 2018

Property Team convicts 3 defendants at trial; 3 more plead guilty

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During the week of July 9, 2018, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Property Team convicted six defendants in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. Three were tried before juries and three others pled guilty before their matters were called for trial. The proceedings were held before The Honorable Eric L. Levinson, Superior Court Judge, and The Honorable Lisa C. Bell, Superior Court Judge.

Leslye Murillo, 47, was tried for two counts of obtaining property by false pretenses. Murillo falsely promised two immigrants she would be able to assist them in legally getting their children into the country or legally getting them a work permit. Murillo provided no work or assistance after taking the two victims' money. The jury returned verdicts of *guilty* as charged. Judge Levinson sentenced Murillo to 5-15 months in prison, followed by a sentence of 6-17 months in prison; the latter sentence was suspended pending Murillo's successful completion of 48 months of supervised probation.

Quentin Weathers, 27, was tried for felony larceny and felony possession of stolen goods. Weathers was seen on surveillance stealing over \$1,000 in merchandise from Dillard's, and a few days later was found with those goods. The jury found Weathers *guilty* as charged. Judge Levinson sentenced the defendant to 8-19 months in prison.

Michael Oppenheimer, 39, was tried for two counts of breaking or entering a motor vehicle. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* as charged. Judge Bell sentenced the defendant to 3-13 months in prison, which was suspended pending the defendant's successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Three defendants pled guilty before their cases were called for trial:

Debra Renfro, 55, pled guilty to embezzlement. Judge Levinson sentenced Renfro to 8-19 months in prison, which was suspended pending her successful completion of 48 months of supervised probation. As conditions of her probation, Renfro must serve 90 days in jail and pay restitution to her former employer.

Kareen Blackwood, 42, pled guilty to misdemeanor larceny. Judge Levinson sentenced Blackwood to 45 days in jail, which was suspended pending her successful completion of 18 months of unsupervised probation. As a condition of her probation, Blackwood must pay restitution to the victim.

Kenneth Ellis, 21, pled guilty to misdemeanor possession of stolen goods. Judge Levinson sentenced Ellis to 45 days in jail, which was suspended pending his successful completion of 16 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.

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