

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

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DA's Crimes Against Persons Team convicts 11 during 2-week trial term

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Persons Team recently completed a two-week trial term. From July 8 to July 19, 2013, the team tried five defendants and convicted a total of 11 defendants in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. The proceedings were held in courtrooms 5370 and 5150 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell and The Honorable Eric L. Levinson, Superior Court Judges.

Tavares Jeter, 24, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon and 3) breaking or entering. The jury returned verdicts of *guilty* on all counts. Judge Levinson sentenced Jeter to 51-71 months in prison. In September 2011, a man went out to check the mail and was forced inside by four intruders, including Jeter. The victim was beaten and stunned with a stun gun before being forced into his bathroom. Jeter and his accomplices stole a television and laptops from the home. A neighbor who saw Jeter outside the victim's home identified Jeter in a photographic lineup, and Jeter's fingerprint was also found on the stolen television, which was recovered within hours of the robbery.



Tavares Jeter

Mitchell Robinson, 38, was tried for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty*. Judge Levinson sentenced Robinson to 18-22 months in prison.

Edith Sinclair, 34, was tried for assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty*. Judge Bell sentenced Sinclair to 24-41 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 36 months of supervised probation. As a condition of her probation, Sinclair must serve 60 days in the Mecklenburg County jail. In June 2012, Sinclair stabbed her boyfriend in the chest after a day of verbal arguing. The victim suffered a punctured lung and was hospitalized for several days.

Eric Jones, 29, was tried for 1) three counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. The jury returned verdicts of *not guilty* on all charges.

Javon Stancil, 32, was tried for 1) six counts of discharging a weapon into occupied property and 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The jury returned verdicts of *not guilty* on all charges.

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

Darian Price, 24, pled guilty to robbery with a dangerous weapon. Judge Bell sentenced Price to 59-80 months in prison and also ordered that Price pay \$160 in restitution to the victim. In September 2011, the victim was at an ATM in the Arboretum Shopping Plaza in Charlotte when Price approached the driver's side window and pointed a gun at her. He took about \$20 in cash, as well as the victim's cellphone, before fleeing the scene. Price was identified as a suspect after someone called Crime Stoppers to report that he or she recognized Price in surveillance photos shown during a local news report about the robbery.

Jeffrey Boggs, 19, pled guilty to 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. Judge Bell sentenced Boggs to 55-78 months in prison.

Aaron Rodman, 27, pled guilty to two counts of indecent liberties with a child. Judge Levinson sentenced Rodman to 40-48 months in prison.

Kevin Henderson, 25, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) carrying a concealed weapon and 3) resisting a public officer. Judge Levinson sentenced Henderson to 11-23 months in prison.

Michael Hill, 27, pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Judge Levinson sentenced Hill to 13-16 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Hill must serve 30 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Samuel Valdez, 32, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Levinson sentenced Valdez to 12-24 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 26 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Valdez must serve 90 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

James Yandle, 32, pled guilty to 1) misdemeanor breaking or entering and 2) misdemeanor larceny. Judge Levinson sentenced Yandle to a total of 240 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Joshua Belk, 24, pled guilty to felony possession of a gun on educational property. He will be sentenced at a later date.

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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