

NEWS RELEASE

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DA's Crimes Against Property Team convicts 30 defendants

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Thirty defendants pled guilty to property crimes in Mecklenburg County Superior Court during the week of July 13, 2015. The defendants, who were prosecuted by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Property Team, entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Richard D. Boner and The Honorable Lisa C. Bell, Superior Court Judges. The convictions were for crimes that included felony breaking or entering, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, possession of stolen goods, financial card fraud, embezzlement and obtaining property by false pretense.

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

Daniel Black, 20, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) felony breaking or entering and 3) possession of a stolen firearm. He was sentenced to 13-25 months in prison. In March 2015, the victim returned to her apartment in Charlotte's University City area and discovered that her front door had been kicked in. She found that several items, including a handgun, a rifle and money, were missing from the apartment. Crime scene investigators located several fingerprints on an empty television box that had been moved from beneath the victim's bed. Those prints were later analyzed and determined to match Black. Following his arrest, Black was interviewed by detectives and confessed to the crime.

Pedro Tovar, 33, pled guilty to 1) felony breaking or entering, 2) larceny after breaking or entering, 3) breaking or entering a motor vehicle and 4) financial card theft. He was sentenced to 10-21 months in prison.

John Stevens, 27, pled guilty to possession of a stolen motor vehicle. He was sentenced to 8-19 months in prison.

Marcus Beaufort, 34, pled guilty to 1) felony breaking or entering and 2) larceny after breaking or entering. He was sentenced to 8-18 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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