

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Jury finds Frederick Sullivan guilty of sexual assault at Johnson C. Smith University

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Frederick Eugene Sullivan, 44, will spend a minimum of 36 years in prison for sexually assaulting a woman on the campus of Johnson C. Smith University in 2013. The trial of Sullivan, which began on August 17, 2015, ended today with a guilty verdict. The proceedings were held in courtroom 5130 before The Honorable Hugh B. Lewis, Superior Court Judge.

The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Persons Team tried Sullivan for 1) two counts of second-degree rape, 2) six counts of second-degree sex offense, 3) assault on a female and 4) communicating threats. Today, the jury found him *guilty* as charged. Judge Lewis sentenced Sullivan to four consecutive sentences of 110-192 months in prison each, totaling a minimum of 36 years in prison. Upon his release from prison, Sullivan must register as a sex offender and participate in satellite-based monitoring for the rest of his life.



Frederick Sullivan

Over the course of a couple of months, Sullivan cultivated a relationship with the victim, a Johnson C. Smith University student, buying her an occasional meal and giving other financial help. On October 26, 2013, with homecoming activities going on elsewhere on campus, Sullivan invited the victim to an empty construction trailer, where he worked as a temporary laborer. When the victim arrived inside, Sullivan grabbed her by the neck and forced her to engage in sexual acts against her will during the next four hours.

At trial, prosecutors introduced the testimony of this victim, as well as three previous victims, allowing the State to establish Sullivan's pattern of violent attacks on women in similar sexual assaults dating back to 1998, 2000 and 2011.

Sullivan was also charged in another sexual assault that occurred in the same location at Johnson C. Smith University in October 2013. After today's guilty verdict, careful review of the matter and consultation with the victim, prosecutors dismissed charges related to that assault to spare another victim from reliving her attack at trial.

The District Attorney's Office is grateful for the four victims who took the stand to describe the ordeals they suffered at the hands of a violent offender. Their testimony was critical, and our community is safer thanks to their bravery.

Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit [www.charmeckda.com](http://www.charmeckda.com). For updates and other information, "like" the DA's Office on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/charmeckda](http://www.facebook.com/charmeckda) and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.

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