

NEWS RELEASE

Spencer B. Merriweather III
District Attorney

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Juries convict 3 defendants tried by Violent Crimes Team

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Violent Crimes Team tried and convicted three men before juries during the week of August 19, 2019. Three other defendants were also convicted during the proceedings, which were held in courtrooms 5110, 5130 and 5370 before The Honorable George C. Bell, The Honorable Athena F. Brooks and The Honorable Robert C. Ervin, Superior Court Judges.

Jon-Alexander Kwaiagaye, 22, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon, 3) second-degree kidnapping and 4) simple assault. The jury found Kwaiagaye *guilty* of conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon, second-degree kidnapping and simple assault. The jury found him *not guilty* of robbery with a dangerous weapon. Judge Bell sentenced Kwaiagaye to 33-52 months in prison.

Carnis Poindexter, Jr., 19, was tried for 1) two counts of assault with a deadly weapon on a government official, 2) resisting a public officer, 3) misdemeanor possession of marijuana, 4) possession of a handgun by a minor and 5) misdemeanor carrying a concealed gun. The jury found Poindexter *guilty* of two counts of the lesser-included offenses of misdemeanor assault on a government official. The jury found him *not guilty* of the remaining charges. Judge Ervin sentenced Poindexter to 60 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail. He was also sentenced to an additional 60 days in jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Tyrone Huntley, 32, was tried for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The jury found Huntley *guilty* as charged. Judge Brooks sentenced Huntley to 17-30 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Tremaine Houston, 33, pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. Judge Ervin sentenced Houston to 25-42 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. He was also referred to Wellness Court (formerly Mental Health Treatment Court). As a condition of his probation, Houston must serve 90 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Dela May, 19, pled guilty to 1) common law robbery and 2) conspiracy to commit common law robbery. Judge Brooks sentenced May to 13-25 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation.

Lance Safford, 39, pled guilty to 1) felony flee to elude arrest with a motor vehicle and 2)

driving while impaired. Judge Bell sentenced Safford to 6-17 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 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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