

# NEWS RELEASE

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District Attorney

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## **Sex offenders, robbers plead guilty**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Thirty-eight defendants, including sex offenders and robbers, were recently convicted by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Persons Team. During the week of August 28, 2017, these defendants entered guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Robert C. Ervin and The Honorable W. Todd Pomeroy, Superior Court Judges.

Among those convicted and sent to prison were:

Jose Pantojas, 16, pled guilty to aiding and abetting first-degree rape. Judge Ervin sentenced Pantojas to 144-185 months in prison.

Tyran Hudson, 41, pled guilty to 1) attempted assault with a firearm on a government official and 2) four counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon. Judge Ervin sentenced Hudson to 102-136 months in prison.

Oscar Beale, 32, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) two counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon. Judge Ervin sentenced Beale to 96-128 months in prison.

Margarito Romero, 45, pled guilty to second-degree rape. Judge Pomeroy sentenced Romero to 44-62 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Romero must register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

Corey Tatum, 21, pled guilty to two counts of indecent liberties with a child. Judge Pomeroy sentenced Tatum to 40-66 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Tatum must register as a sex offender for 30 years.

Noe Pena, 42, pled guilty to 1) second-degree kidnapping and 2) sexual battery. Judge Ervin sentenced Pena to 24-41 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Pena must register as a sex offender for 30 years.

Brian DeChristopher, 45, pled guilty to 1) four counts of larceny from the person, 2) three counts of common law robbery and 3) attempted larceny from the person. Judge Ervin sentenced DeChristopher to 16-29 months in prison. He was also sentenced to an additional 42-60 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 36 months of supervised probation.

*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](http://www.charmeckda.com).*

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