

NEWS RELEASE

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Jury convicts man of drug crimes; another convicted after police find 800 grams of heroin

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – A Mecklenburg County jury recently convicted a man of possessing heroin and drug paraphernalia while another three defendants pled guilty before their cases were called for trial. One of the convicted defendants, who was sent to prison, was arrested after police found him in possession of about 800 grams of heroin. These proceedings, which were led by the District Attorney's Drug Team, were held before The Honorable Robert C. Ervin, Superior Court Judge, during the week of August 29, 2016.

Samuel Campola, 22, was tried for 1) possession of heroin and 2) possession of drug paraphernalia. The jury found him *guilty* as charged. Judge Ervin sentenced Campola to 3-13 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As conditions of his probation, Campola must serve 3 months of house arrest and complete a substance abuse assessment and follow through with any recommended treatment.

Roberto Contreras-Gonzalez, 41, pled guilty to 1) attempted trafficking in heroin by possession and 2) attempted trafficking in heroin by manufacture. Judge Ervin sentenced Contreras-Gonzalez to a total of 134-186 months in prison. In July 2015, Charlotte-Mecklenburg police executed a search warrant at a home after observing Contreras-Gonzalez engage in drug transactions. Detectives located 91 grams of heroin in a shed and more than 700 grams of heroin buried in a flower bed. Contreras-Gonzalez admitted that he had been selling heroin for a month and that he typically sold \$700 worth of heroin each day.

Charles Burns, 24, pled guilty to possession of cocaine. Burns was sentenced to 5-15 months in prison.

Simon Gebrezgiabher, 23, pled guilty to 1) misdemeanor possession of marijuana and 2) possession of marijuana drug paraphernalia. Gebrezgiabher was ordered to pay a \$100 fine.

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