

NEWS RELEASE

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Property Team convicts seven defendants during August 29 trial term

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During the week of August 29, 2011, the District Attorney's Office convicted eight separate defendants in Superior Court of committing various property crimes against the citizens of Mecklenburg County. One defendant was convicted of driving while impaired after a trial.

On Monday, May 29, 2011, in Courtroom 6130, the Honorable Robert C. Ervin, Superior Court Judge, began a trial of co-defendants Jerry White, 33, and Eric Jones, 28. The State alleged that Jerry White, who worked at the Blake Hotel in Charlotte, provided guest credit card information to Eric Jones. Jones then used the guests' personal identifying information to make purchases without their consent. On Wednesday, September 7, the jury found defendant White *guilty* of four counts of trafficking in stolen identities. However, Judge Ervin dismissed the charges against defendant White after the jury verdict. The jury found Jones *guilty* of (1) possession of three or more stolen identities, and (2) two counts of obtaining property by false pretenses. Judge Ervin sentenced Jones to 18- 22 months in prison.

In Courtroom 5370, a jury *convicted* Lakisha Henderson, 28 of driving while impaired. She was sentenced by the Honorable Timothy S. Kincaid, Superior Court Judge, to 120 days in the county jail. That sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. She must serve 48 hours in the county jail as a condition of her probation.

James R. McIllwaine, 19, pled *guilty* to (1) three counts of felony breaking or entering and (2) three counts of felony larceny after breaking or entering. He was sentenced by Judge Kincaid to serve 12-16 months in prison.

Deperrius S. Digsby, 21, pled *guilty* to (1) felony breaking or entering and (2) felony larceny after breaking or entering. Judge Kincaid sentenced Digsby to 8-10 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As part of his probation, Digsby must serve 45 days in the county jail and pay restitution to the victims.

Antoine Alexander, 17, pled *guilty* to (1) two counts of felony breaking or entering and (2) one count of felony larceny after breaking or entering. He was sentenced to 6-8 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation. As part of his probation, Alexander must serve 60 days in the county jail.

Demondre Smith, 19, pled guilty to misdemeanor larceny. He was sentenced to 45 days in the county jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation. As part of his probation, Smith must serve 16 days in the county jail and pay restitution to the victim.

Judge Kincaid also heard arguments for a pre-trial motion to suppress certain evidence seized or obtained by law enforcement, alleging violations of the defendant's legal rights. After hearing testimony and arguments for the defense and the Assistant District Attorney, he denied the motion for all but one of the charges, and those cases will be scheduled for a jury trial on a later date.

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