

NEWS RELEASE

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DA's Habitual Felon Team tries 3 defendants; habitual felon pleads guilty

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Working in three trial courtrooms, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team tried three defendants during the week of September 6, 2016. Another defendant, a habitual felon, pled guilty when his case was called for trial. The proceedings were held before The Honorable Linwood O. Foust, The Honorable Kevin M. Bridges, The Honorable Carla N. Archie and The Honorable Yvonne Mims Evans, Superior Court Judges. Court was not held on September 5, 2016, in observance of Labor Day.

Isiah Obinna Ezechukwu, 29, was tried for 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) assault on a government official, 3) assault on a female, 4) resisting a public officer and 5) being a habitual felon. At the close of the State's evidence, Judge Foust dismissed the charge of assault on a female. A jury then found Ezechukwu *guilty* of assault on a government official and resisting a public officer and *not guilty* of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. As a result of the jury's not guilty verdict for the felony offense, the State was unable to proceed on the habitual felon charge. Ezechukwu was sentenced to a total of 210 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Rasean Daque Hamrick, 24, was tried for 1) trafficking in cocaine by possession, 2) trafficking in cocaine by transportation, 3) conspiracy to traffic cocaine by possession, 4) possession with the intent to sell or deliver marijuana and 5) felony possession of marijuana. A jury found Hamrick *not guilty* of felony possession of marijuana, possession with the intent to sell or deliver marijuana and conspiracy to traffic cocaine. Judge Bridges declared a mistrial as to the remaining charges when jurors reported that they were unable to reach unanimous verdicts.

Robert Allen McClinton, 62, was tried for 1) possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine and 2) being a habitual felon. A jury found McClinton *not guilty* of the drug offense, and as a result, the State was unable to proceed on the habitual felon charge.

When called for trial, Walter Lynn Kimble, 45, pled guilty to 1) two counts of possession of cocaine, 2) possession of drug paraphernalia, 3) misdemeanor possession of marijuana, 4) indecent exposure and 5) two counts of being a habitual felon. Judge Evans sentenced Kimble to 20-36 months in prison. Some of Kimble's prior convictions include sale of a controlled substance and multiple counts of possession of a controlled substance.

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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