

NEWS RELEASE

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DA's Drug Team convicts 1 at trial; 4 others plead guilty

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Team convicted one defendant at trial, and another four defendants pled guilty September 16-20, 2013, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. The proceedings were held before The Honorable James W. Morgan, Superior Court Judge.

Salvador Quinonez, 49, was tried for 1) trafficking in methamphetamine by transport, 2) trafficking in methamphetamine by possession and 3) possession with intent to sell or deliver methamphetamine. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* on the charge of trafficking in methamphetamine by transport. The jury found him *not guilty* on the remaining charges. Judge Morgan sentenced Quinonez to 225-279 months in prison. In June 2012, agents with the Charlotte division of the Drug Enforcement Administration and Charlotte-Mecklenburg police received information that Quinonez had a large quantity of methamphetamine. Officers stopped the car in which Quinonez was traveling and found 1 pound of methamphetamine in the car.

Miles Nicholson, 22, filed a motion to suppress evidence obtained by law enforcement, alleging violations of his legal rights. After hearing testimony and arguments from the defense and the Assistant District Attorney, Judge Morgan granted the defendant's motion. As a result, the State dismissed the case.

Four defendants pled guilty when their cases were called for trial:

Eddie Ligon, 35, pled guilty to attempted trafficking in cocaine by possession. Judge Morgan sentenced Ligon to 13-25 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation. As one of the conditions of his probation, Ligon must serve 79 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Stanley Abraham, 32, pled guilty to 1) possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana and 2) possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Morgan sentenced Abraham to 6-17 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending Abraham's successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Amy Campbell, 37, pled guilty to possession of methamphetamine. Judge Morgan sentenced Campbell to 6-8 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation. As one of the conditions of her probation, Campbell must serve 13 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Timothy McAllister, 29, pled guilty to possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Morgan sentenced McAllister to 120 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 12 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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