

# NEWS RELEASE

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District Attorney

**October 2, 2018**

## **22 convicted of property crimes; diversion offered to 20**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Property Team convicted 22 defendants in Superior Court during the week of September 17, 2018. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5310 before The Honorable W. Todd Pomeroy, Superior Court Judge. Court was closed on September 17, 2018, due to Hurricane Florence.

Among those convicted were:

Shakeim Campbell, 23, pled guilty to being a habitual breaking or entering offender. He was sentenced to 32-51 months in prison.

Roy Smith, 27, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) larceny of a firearm, 3) three counts of breaking or entering a motor vehicle, 4) assault on a government official, 5) two counts of assault by pointing a gun and 6) injury to personal property. He was sentenced to 18-41 months in prison.

Adrian Hill, 33, pled guilty to identity theft. He was sentenced to 13-25 months in prison.

Israel Franks, 27, pled guilty to 1) felony breaking or entering, 2) possession of a stolen motor vehicle and 3) assault on a female. He was sentenced to 8-19 months in prison.

Joseph Burns, 20, pled guilty to possession of a stolen motor vehicle. He was sentenced to 5-15 months in prison.

In addition to these proceedings, the Crimes Against Property Team also enrolled defendants in the deferred prosecution program. Deferred prosecution is made available to first-time offenders charged with a low-level, nonviolent crime, allowing eligible defendants to earn a dismissal of the charge by participating in supervised probation for about two years. Participants must comply with conditions such as community service, restitution to a victim or drug testing when appropriate. If a defendant successfully completes his or her probation and commits no new crimes, a dismissal of the charge is granted. Since August 23, 2018, the Crimes Against Property Team has enrolled 20 defendants in this program.

*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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