

NEWS RELEASE

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DA's Crimes Against Property Team convicts 41 defendants

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Property Team convicted 41 defendants of property crimes September 23-27, 2013, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable James W. Morgan, Superior Court Judge. The convictions were for crimes that included breaking or entering, habitual breaking or entering, larceny after breaking or entering, obtaining property by false pretenses, breaking or entering motor vehicles and organized retail theft. Based on the structured sentencing laws in North Carolina, sentences ranged from probation to active prison sentences.

Among the defendants who pled guilty were:

Jason Haney, 34, pled guilty to 1) felony attempted organized retail theft, 2) six counts of attempted felony larceny and 3) being a habitual felon. Haney was sentenced to 40-60 months in prison and ordered to pay \$8,549.42 in restitution.

Paul Walker, 25, pled guilty to 1) three counts of felony breaking or entering, 2) felony larceny after breaking or entering and 3) being a habitual breaking or entering status offender. Walker was sentenced to 30-48 months in prison.

Dominique Small, 24, pled guilty to 1) felony breaking or entering and 2) felony possession of burglary tools. Small was sentenced to 9-20 months in prison.

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.

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