

# NEWS RELEASE

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**R. Andrew Murray**  
District Attorney

**October 5, 2012**

## **Thirty defendants convicted of drug crimes**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Beginning Monday, September 24, and ending Thursday, September 27, 2012, the DA's Drug Prosecution Team convicted 30 defendants in Courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Linwood O. Foust, Superior Court Judge. The convictions were for crimes that included possessing, selling and trafficking in illegal drugs. Based on the structured sentencing laws in North Carolina, sentences ranged from probation to the active prison sentences of Luis Torres, 23, who received 70-84 months in prison for conspiracy to traffic in heroin and Derek Williams, 32, who received 35-42 months in prison for trafficking in methamphetamine.

*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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