

NEWS RELEASE

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Drug Prosecution Team convicts nine of felony drug charges

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The DA's Drug Prosecution Team prosecuted nine defendants during the week of October 8, 2012, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court in Courtroom 5150 before The Honorable Linwood O Foust, Superior Court Judge, and in Courtroom 5370 before The Honorable Timothy S. Kincaid, Superior Court Judge.

One defendant pled guilty on Monday when his case was called for trial: Rodolfo Trejo-Vargas, 30, pled guilty to 1) trafficking in heroin, 2) maintaining a place for controlled substances, 3) possession with intent to sell or deliver heroin and 4) possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Foust sentenced Trejo-Vargas to 225 -279 months in prison and \$500,000 in statutory fines.

Brandon Foster, 27, was tried for 1) sale of cocaine ,2) delivery of cocaine and 3) possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* on delivery of cocaine and *not guilty* on sale of cocaine and possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine. On the charge of delivery of cocaine, Judge Foust sentenced Foster to 5 to 6 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 12 months of supervised probation. That sentence was stayed pending the defendant's appeal of the verdict.

Andrey Gurlov, 30, was tried for 1) felony possession of heroin and 2) possession of drug paraphernalia. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* on all charges. Judge Kincaid sentenced Gurlov pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 90-96 pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Alan Arrington, 28, filed a motion to suppress evidence seized by law enforcement, alleging violations of his legal rights. After hearing testimony and arguments from defense counsel and the Assistant District Attorney, Judge Kincaid denied the defendant's motion. Arrington then pled guilty to 1) possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana and 2) misdemeanor carrying a concealed weapon. Judge Kincaid sentenced Arrington to 6-8 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Michael Horton, 30, filed a motion to suppress evidence seized by law enforcement, alleging violations of his legal rights. After hearing testimony and arguments from defense counsel and the Assistant District Attorney, Judge Kincaid denied the defendant's motion. Horton then pled guilty to felony possession of marijuana. Judge Kincaid sentenced Horton to 6-8 months

in prison; that sentence was suspended pending Horton's successful completion of 36 months of supervised probation.

Donavon Garland, 28, pled guilty to 1) possession of cocaine and 2) misdemeanor flee to elude arrest. Judge Foust sentenced Garland to 8-10 months in prison.

Stacy Parham, 24, pled guilty to sale of marijuana. Judge Foust sentenced Parham to 5-6 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending Parham's successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Freddray Sherer 34, pled guilty to 1) possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine, 2) felony carrying a concealed weapon and 3) possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Kincaid sentenced Sherer to 6-17 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation.

Bryant Boulware, 29, pled guilty to 1) possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana and 2) possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Kincaid sentenced Boulware to 6-8 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

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