

NEWS RELEASE

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Juries convict two defendants in breaking or entering cases

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Juries recently convicted two defendants in separate breaking or entering cases that were tried in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. The defendants were prosecuted by the District Attorney's Crimes Against Property Team. The proceedings were held in courtroom 5110 before The Honorable W. Todd Pomeroy, Superior Court Judge, during the week of October 24, 2016.

Jaime Baugher, 18, was tried for 1) three counts of felony breaking or entering a motor vehicle, 2) two counts of felony larceny and 3) misdemeanor larceny. The jury found Baugher *guilty* as charged. Judge Pomeroy sentenced Baugher to a total of 12-34 months in prison; those sentences were suspended pending her successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation. As conditions of her probation, Baugher must serve 5 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail, complete 75 hours of community service and submit to a drug and alcohol assessment. In July 2015, a witness observed several people around the victim's car. The witness alerted the victim, who walked outside and saw Baugher sitting in the passenger seat of his car. As he confronted her, Baugher ran and jumped a fence. The victim realized that a cellphone, camping equipment and sunglasses were missing from his vehicle. A few moments later, the victim spotted Baugher walking down a nearby street. The victim followed her and called 911. Shortly thereafter, police arrived and placed Baugher under arrest. The next morning, two other victims discovered that someone had broken into their cars, taking items such as a flashlight, a phone charger, a memory card, sunglasses, a laptop and a briefcase. Crime scene officers located prints on the driver's side front door of one of the cars and the trunk of the other car. Those prints were later determined to match Baugher.

Eskinder Asefaw, 25, was tried for 1) felony breaking or entering, 2) felony conspiracy and 3) possession of burglary tools. Before the close of the State's evidence, the State dismissed the conspiracy and possession of burglary tools charges in order to pursue the charge best supported by the testimony provided at trial. The jury found Asefaw *guilty* of felony breaking or entering. He was sentenced to 5-15 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Asefaw must serve 5 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

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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