

# NEWS RELEASE

**R. Andrew Murray**  
District Attorney

**November 20, 2012**

## **Habitual Felon Team convicts 23 defendants**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The DA's Habitual Felon Team convicted 23 defendants this month in administrative courtroom 5350; not all of them were habitual felons under North Carolina law. Eighteen offenders were sent to prison. The defendants entered guilty pleas before The Honorable Beverly T. Beal, Superior Court Judge, on November 6, November 7, and November 9, 2012.

Among those convicted were:

Thomas Cumberlander, 47, pled guilty to 1) felony larceny and 2) felony breaking or entering. Cumberlander was sentenced to 32-48 months in prison. Some of Cumberlander's prior convictions include felony breaking or entering, larceny after breaking or entering, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Lakasha Evans, 38, pled guilty to 1) obtaining property by false pretenses and 2) attempt to obtain property by false pretenses. Evans was sentenced to 50-60 months in prison. Evans' prior criminal record includes over 30 convictions for obtaining property by false pretenses.

Conte Freeman, 42, pled guilty to 1) attempted felony breaking or entering and 2) felony breaking or entering. Freeman was sentenced to 28-43 months in prison. Some of Freeman's prior convictions include common law robbery, felony breaking or entering, and larceny after breaking or entering.

Jamar Bynes, 39, pled guilty to 1) attempted common law robbery and 2) being a habitual felon. Bynes was sentenced to 87-114 months in prison. Bynes has prior convictions for attempted common law robbery, felony larceny, and sale of cocaine.

Elliot Falls, 47, pled guilty to 1) felony larceny and 2) resisting a public officer. Falls was sentenced to 27-41 months in prison. Falls' prior convictions include possession of cocaine, felony larceny, and possession of a stolen motor vehicle.

Jeremy Green, 31, pled guilty to 1) two counts of felony breaking or entering and 2) being a habitual felon. Green was sentenced to 58-79 months in prison. Some of Green's prior convictions include felony breaking or entering, felony larceny, and breaking or entering a motor vehicle.

Clarence Watson, 48, pled guilty to 1) possession of cocaine with intent to sell or deliver and 2) being a habitual felon. Watson was sentenced to 77-102 months in prison. Watson has prior convictions for common law robbery and conspiracy to sell cocaine.

Clarence Jones, 36, pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. Jones was sentenced to 26-44 months in prison. Jones has prior convictions for felony breaking or entering, larceny after breaking or entering, and sale of cocaine.

Clyde Sturdivant, 47, pled guilty to 1) three counts of breaking or entering a motor vehicle and 2) being a habitual felon. Sturdivant was sentenced to 40-60 months in prison. Sturdivant has previously been convicted of felony breaking or entering, felony larceny, and of being a habitual felon.

Carlo Williams, 38, pled guilty to 1) two counts of breaking or entering a motor vehicle and 2) being a habitual felon. Williams was sentenced to 35-54 months in prison. Some of Williams' prior convictions include breaking or entering a motor vehicle, felony breaking or entering, and possession of marijuana with intent to sell or deliver.

*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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