

# NEWS RELEASE

**R. Andrew Murray**  
District Attorney

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## **Crimes Against Persons Team takes rape and robbery cases to trial**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Crimes Against Persons Team for the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office tried two defendants during the week of October 29, 2012, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court.

Duncan Ray Bynum, 42, pled guilty to one count of statutory rape. The Honorable Carl R. Fox, Superior Court judge, sentenced Bynum to 301-371 months in prison. Once Bynum has completed his prison term, he will be required to register as a sex offender and enroll in satellite-based monitoring of sex offenders for the rest of his life.



**Duncan Ray Bynum**

The case against Bynum stems from a July 2009 incident involving the rape of a 14-year-old girl. Bynum's decision to plead guilty came during the fifth day of his trial, after the jury had heard from several witnesses, including the victim and a friend who witnessed the incident. Before Bynum pled guilty, Judge Fox had ruled that the jury would be allowed to hear from two witnesses who each described being sexually assaulted as children by Bynum in the same location that the 14-year-old was raped. The first of these two witnesses described an incident that occurred in 2006 when she was 13 years old. The second witness also described being sexually assaulted at age 13. The bravery of these four girls – displayed by coming to court to tell of their experiences – has likely prevented future assaults of other children.

In a separate case, Demorrious Dulin, 28, was tried for robbery with a dangerous weapon. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* to larceny from the person, which is a lesser charge. Dulin admitted his status as an habitual felon. The Honorable Jesse B. Caldwell, III, Superior Court judge, sentenced Dulin to 80-105 months in prison.

Three defendants pled guilty before their cases were called for trial:

Keida Taylor, 38, pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a felon. Judge Caldwell sentenced Taylor to 12-15 months in prison.

Cameron Harris, 30, pled guilty to possession of cocaine. Harris was sentenced by the Honorable Beverly T. Beal to 6-8 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 40 months of supervised probation.

Shelesse Miller, 20, pled guilty to obtaining property by false pretenses. Judge Caldwell entered a prayer for judgment.

*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).*

Visit the DA's Office's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/charmeckda](https://www.facebook.com/charmeckda) and follow the Office on Twitter: @CharMeckDA

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