

NEWS RELEASE

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Two tried for felony drug crimes; others plead guilty to avoid trial

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Drug Prosecution Team of the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office prosecuted seven defendants during the week of November 13, 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 Richard L. Doughton, Superior Court Judge.

Barbara Harling, 51, was tried for possession of cocaine. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* as charged. Judge Foust sentenced Harling to 4-5 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 14 months of supervised probation. As one of the conditions of her probation, Harling must serve 3 days in the county jail.

Thomas Copeland, 52, was tried for possession of cocaine. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* as charged. Judge Doughton sentenced Copeland to 12 months of supervised probation.

Edgar Castellanos, 27, pled guilty to trafficking in heroin when his case was called for trial. Judge Foust sentenced Castellanos to 70-84 months in prison.

The following defendants pled guilty when their cases were called for trial:

Roberto Pineda, 34, pled guilty to trafficking in heroin. Judge Foust sentenced Pineda to 70-84 months in prison.

Joseph Dickenson, 33, pled guilty to trafficking in marijuana. Judge Foust sentenced Dickenson to 25-30 months in prison.

Watson Graham, 63, pled guilty to 1) three counts of sale of cocaine and 2) three counts of possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine. Judge Doughton sentenced Graham to 26-32 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 60 months of supervised probation.

Germichael Fewell, 24, pled guilty to 1) two counts of possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana, 2) three counts of felony possession of marijuana and 3) possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Foust sentenced Fewell to 6-8 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As one of his conditions of probation, Fewell must serve 20 days in the county jail.

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