District Attorney's Office
State of North Carolina
26th Prosecutorial District
Mecklenburg County

NEWS RELEASE

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Habitual felon sentenced to prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team called cases for trial during the week of December 4, 2017. These proceedings were held in courtrooms 5110 and 5370 before The Honorable Carla N. Archie and The Honorable Lisa C. Bell, Superior Court Judges.

In March 2017, a jury found Loveless DeCarlos Hoskins, 38, guilty of 1) two counts of possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine, 2) sale of cocaine and 3) delivery of cocaine. During the week of December 4, 2017, the State tried Hoskins for being a habitual felon when he committed the above offenses. A jury found Hoskins *guilty* of being a habitual felon. Judge Archie then sentenced Hoskins to 144-198 months in prison. Hoskins' prior convictions include discharging a weapon into an occupied dwelling, assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and malicious conduct by a prisoner.

Boris Pharr, 33, was tried for 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) being a habitual felon. A jury found Pharr *not guilty* of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. As a result of the verdict, the State was unable to proceed on the habitual felon charge.

Venus McKinney, 52, pled guilty to embezzlement. Judge Archie sentenced McKinney to 8-19 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation. As a condition of her probation, McKinney must serve 30 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

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.

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