

NEWS RELEASE

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DA's Homicide Team convicts 3 defendants

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Homicide Team convicted three defendants today in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. The defendants entered their guilty pleas before The Honorable Richard D. Boner and The Honorable Yvonne Mims Evans, Superior Court Judges.

Among the defendants convicted were:

Jonathan Ervin, 24, pled guilty to second-degree murder. Judge Boner sentenced him to 165-210 months in prison. In April 2012, Antoine Cureton, 24, was walking with two women near the intersection of West Boulevard and Remount Road in Charlotte. Ervin approached as if to embrace Mr. Cureton but then fatally stabbed Mr. Cureton before running away. Eyewitnesses saw Ervin, who had been involved in an ongoing disagreement with Mr. Cureton for weeks, running from the scene with a knife.

Bairon Sandoval, 24, pled guilty to 1) involuntary manslaughter and 2) driving while impaired in connection with the February 2013 death of Tatiana Rivera, 20. For the manslaughter offense, Judge Evans sentenced Sandoval to 12-24 months in prison. He must also serve 7 days for the DWI offense, which will be served concurrently to the sentence for involuntary manslaughter.

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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