

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

December 23, 2014

Guilty verdict sends rapist to prison; 2 others convicted at trial

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – A rapist and two other defendants who fired gunshots at people were convicted at trial by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Persons Team. Four others were convicted when they pled guilty in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. The proceedings, which occurred during the week of December 15, 2014, were held before The Honorable Yvonne Mims Evans, The Honorable Eric L. Levinson and The Honorable C. Thomas Edwards, Superior Court Judges.

Shaka Williams, 31, was tried for 1) first-degree rape, 2) first-degree kidnapping and 3) first-degree burglary. The jury found him *guilty* of first-degree rape and *not guilty* of the remaining charges. Judge Evans sentenced Williams to 235-342 months in prison.

Jonathan Singleton, 49, was tried for 1) three counts of discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle while in operation and 2) assault with a deadly weapon with the intent to kill. The jury found him *guilty* of two counts of the lesser-included offense of discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle, as well as the lesser-included offense of misdemeanor assault with a deadly weapon. The jury found him *not guilty* of one count of discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle while in operation. Judge Edwards sentenced Singleton to 20-33 months in prison. In October 2013, Singleton and the victim got into a verbal altercation at a gas station on North Tryon Street in Charlotte. Then, Singleton fired several shots at the victim's vehicle.

Houston George, 39, was tried for 1) assault with a deadly weapon with the intent to kill inflicting serious injury and 2) attempted first-degree murder. The jury found him *guilty* of the lesser-included offense of assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and *not guilty* of attempted first-degree murder. Judge Edwards sentenced him to 20-33 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending George's successful completion of 36 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, George must serve 100 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

When the State called Chaz Mills, 19, for trial, the defendant filed a motion to suppress his confession. Judge Levinson granted the motion, and Mills then pled guilty to 1) three counts of common law robbery and 2) three counts of conspiracy to commit common law robbery. Mills was sentenced to 13-25 months in prison. Mills was also sentenced to an additional 13-25 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Mills must serve 10 days in custody.

Eric Darnell Frazier, 21, pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. He was sentenced to 9-20 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful

completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Frazier must serve 90 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Ontario Redfern, 17, pled guilty to conspiracy to commit common law robbery. He was sentenced to 5-15 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Shaquanna Byrd, 28, pled guilty to felony harboring an escapee. She was sentenced to 6-17 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit www.charmeckda.com. For updates and other information, "like" the DA's Office on Facebook at www.facebook.com/charmeckda and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.

// End //

