

NEWS RELEASE

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Habitual Felon Team sends 2 defendants to prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team convicted two defendants during its latest trial session. The proceedings were held the week of December 17, 2018, in courtroom 5370 before The Honorable Eric L. Levinson, Superior Court Judge.

Antonio Gaines, 29, was tried for robbery with a dangerous weapon. At the close of all of the evidence presented at trial, Gaines pled guilty to robbery with a dangerous weapon. Judge Levinson sentenced Gaines to 85-114 months in prison. In August 2017, Gaines entered an arcade business, approached the clerk, produced a weapon and demanded money from the safe and register. Charlotte-Mecklenburg police circulated photos from surveillance footage of the robbery and received several leads, allowing police to develop Gaines as a suspect. The victim was shown a photographic lineup and identified the defendant with 100 percent certainty, stating she would never forget his face.

Rodwyn Taylor, 27, was tried for 1) possession of cocaine and 2) being a habitual felon. A jury found Taylor *guilty* of possession of cocaine. Taylor then admitted his status as a habitual felon. Judge Levinson sentenced Taylor to 35-54 months in prison. Taylor's prior convictions include felony possession of stolen goods, breaking or entering a motor vehicle and felony flee to elude arrest with a motor vehicle.

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.

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