

NEWS RELEASE

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Drug Team calls cases for trial; 4 plead guilty

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Team called cases for trial January 2-5, 2018, in Superior Court. Two defendants were tried before juries, one defendant pled guilty after a judge denied his pretrial motion and three others pled guilty before their cases were called for trial. The proceedings were held before The Honorable W. Robert Bell and The Honorable Forrest D. Bridges, Superior Court Judges. Court was not held on January 1, 2018, in observance of New Year's Day.

Rene Turcios, 24, was tried for possession of cocaine. The jury found Turcios *guilty* as charged. Judge Bell sentenced Turcios to 24 months of supervised probation pursuant to N.C. General Statute § 90-96.

Brandon Carpenter, 33, filed a pretrial motion to suppress evidence seized or obtained by law enforcement, alleging violations of his legal rights. Judge Bell, who heard arguments from the defense and an Assistant District Attorney, denied Carpenter's motion. Carpenter then pled guilty to possession of fentanyl. Judge Bell sentenced Carpenter to 10-21 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation. As one of the conditions of his probation, Carpenter must serve 30 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Daquieze Marshall, 25, was tried for felony possession of marijuana. The jury found Marshall *not guilty*.

Antonio Burris, 32, pled guilty to 1) possession of heroin, 2) possession of heroin with the intent to sell or deliver and 3) possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Bell sentenced Burris to 6-17 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As one of the conditions of his probation, Burris must serve 9 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Joshua Stewart, 35, pled guilty to possession of heroin. Judge Bridges sentenced Stewart to 12 months of supervised probation pursuant to N.C. General Statute § 90-96.

Nelson Brice, 26, pled guilty to possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Bell sentenced Brice to 45 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

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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