

NEWS RELEASE

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January 17, 2019

Juror's medical emergency leads to mistrial in homicide case

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – A mistrial has been declared in the trial of Lionel Octavius Price, who is charged in the 2016 murder of Fredrick Antwone Butler, 40. The proceedings, which began January 7, 2019, were held in courtroom 5370 before The Honorable Gregory R. Hayes, Superior Court Judge.

The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Homicide Team tried Price, 32, for 1) first-degree murder and 2) first-degree burglary. Jury deliberations began January 16, 2019, but before jurors could resume deliberations today, one of the jurors went into premature labor. State law prohibits the court from replacing a juror with an alternate juror after deliberations have begun. As a result, Judge Hayes declared a mistrial today.

The District Attorney's Office wishes the juror and her family well. This case remains pending.

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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