

NEWS RELEASE

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Violent Crimes Team sends offenders to prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – A man who was sent to prison for at least 21 years for shooting his friend and a Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officer was among the 36 defendants recently convicted by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Violent Crimes Team. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge, during the week of January 8, 2018.

Among those convicted and sent to prison were:

Joshuale Matthews-Vincent Carter, 26, pled guilty to 1) attempted first-degree murder, 2) three counts of assault with a firearm on a law enforcement officer and 3) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. He was sentenced to a total of 260-348 months in prison. On the evening of March 26, 2016, Carter became intoxicated and began arguing with a woman in the bedroom of his home. When his friend approached and tried to intervene, Carter fired a gun through his door, shooting his friend in the groin. The friend went to a neighbor's home for help, and the neighbor called 911. When Charlotte-Mecklenburg police arrived at the home on Honey Hill Lane, they observed Carter moving toward his car outside. They tried to engage him in conversation, but he continued toward his car. Officers believed he was attempting to flee the scene. When they asked him to stop, Carter emerged from the car and opened fire on Lt. Andrew Harris. Carter continued to fire gunshots at three other officers. One of Carter's initial gunshots struck Lt. Harris in the torso. Lt. Harris suffered a serious injury and was hospitalized, but fortunately, his bullet-proof vest protected him from what could have been a life-threatening injury. Officers returned fire, striking Carter. But before they could take him into custody or render aid, Carter shot himself in the head, causing the loss of his eye. This self-inflicted wound was confirmed by firearm analysis, as well as a written statement from Carter.

Elbert Hernandez, 21, pled guilty to 1) three counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) three counts of attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon and 3) five counts of conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. Hernandez was sentenced to 102-136 months in prison.

Kendrick Parry, 30, pled guilty to 1) assault with a deadly weapon on a government official and 2) assault on a government official. Parry was sentenced to 20-33 months in prison.

Calvin Misenheimer, 22, pled guilty to 1) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) felony larceny. Misenheimer was sentenced to 17-31 months in prison.

Frederico Zuniga, 41, pled guilty to 1) serious injury by motor vehicle and 2) driving while impaired. Zuniga was sentenced to 14-26 months in prison.

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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