

NEWS RELEASE

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Special Victims Team convicts 16, including sex offender

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During the Special Victims Team's most recent court session, prosecutors convicted a man of a statutory sex crime. This team, which prosecutes cases of sexual assault, domestic violence and child abuse, also convicted another fifteen defendants during the week of January 27, 2020. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5310 before The Honorable R. Gregory Horne, Superior Court Judge.

Among those convicted were:

Steven Griguts, 25, pled guilty to three counts of indecent liberties with a minor. He was sentenced to 60-99 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Griguts must register as a sex offender for 30 years.

Justin Pruner, 29, pled guilty to 1) felony habitual misdemeanor assault and 2) second-degree kidnapping. He was sentenced to 26-44 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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