

NEWS RELEASE

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DA's Habitual Felon Team convicts 5 during trial week

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team convicted five defendants during the week of March 10, 2014. One defendant was convicted by a jury, and two other defendants pled guilty after their trials began. Another two defendants pled guilty before or when their cases were called for trial. The proceedings were held before The Honorable Richard D. Boner, The Honorable Nathaniel J. Poovey and The Honorable H. William Constangy, Superior Court Judges.

Ray Anthony Smith, 54, was tried for 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) possession of cocaine, 3) possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana, 4) felony maintaining a dwelling for the purpose of keeping controlled substances and 5) being a habitual felon. The jury found him *guilty* of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, possession of cocaine and the lesser-included offense of misdemeanor maintaining a dwelling for the purpose of keeping controlled substances. The jury found him *not guilty* of possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana and of being a habitual felon. Judge Boner sentenced Smith to 22-36 months in prison. Judge Boner also sentenced him to an additional 9-20 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 60 months of supervised probation.

During jury selection for the trial against Michael Frye, the defendant decided to plead guilty. Frye, 38, pled guilty to 1) trafficking in heroin by transportation, 2) trafficking in heroin by possession, 3) delivering heroin, 4) sale of heroin, 5) conspiracy to sell heroin and 6) possession with intent to sell or deliver heroin. Judge Constangy sentenced him to 90-117 months in prison.

Ronald William Smith, 42, pled guilty following jury selection during the trial for his charges of 1) possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine, 2) possession with intent to sell or deliver methoxymethcathinone, 3) possession with intent to sell or deliver alprazolam and 4) being a habitual felon. Smith pled guilty as charged, and Judge Constangy sentenced him to 84-113 months in prison. Some of Smith's prior convictions include possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and sale of cocaine.

The following two defendants pled guilty before or when their cases were called for trial:

Laphontrice McCray, 31, pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. She was sentenced to 12-24 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Kerry Davis, 53, pled guilty to possession of cocaine. Davis was sentenced to 6-17 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending Davis' successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Frye, McCray and Davis did not qualify as habitual felons under North Carolina law.

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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