

NEWS RELEASE

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Habitual felon who tried to bribe potential juror sent to prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – A jury convicted a habitual felon, and four other defendants entered guilty pleas during a recent trial session led by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office Habitual Felon Team. These proceedings were held in courtrooms 5110 and 5370 before The Honorable Gregory R. Hayes and The Honorable Tanya T. Wallace, Superior Court Judges, during the week of April 2, 2018.

Wesley Westbrook, 34, was tried for 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) maintaining a dwelling for the sale of controlled substances, 3) possession with the intent to sell or deliver marijuana, 4) possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine, 5) felony possession of a schedule I controlled substance and 6) being a habitual felon. A jury found Westbrook *guilty* as charged. Westbrook then pled guilty to obstruction of justice and admitted his status as a habitual felon. Judge Wallace sentenced Westbrook to 105-138 months in prison. Westbrook was initially called for trial in September 2017, however, a mistrial was declared after Westbrook attempted to bribe a potential juror. The victim was a member of the jury pool. She indicated to the court that she knew Westbrook and asked to be released from jury service due to a possible financial hardship caused by serving on a jury. Westbrook then began texting the victim, asking her to stay in the jury pool and to help him. She ignored his text. Westbrook later went to her home and offered her \$500 to help with lost wages so that she could remain in the jury pool. The victim reported Westbrook's actions to the court. Westbrook's prior convictions include sale of cocaine, trafficking in cocaine and possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine.

Terry Dorsey, 40, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) being a habitual felon. A jury found Dorsey *not guilty*.

Carlos White, 41, pled guilty to 1) larceny of a motor vehicle, 2) possession of a stolen motor vehicle and 3) being a habitual felon. Judge Hayes sentenced White to 103-136 months in prison. White's prior convictions include two counts of possession of a stolen motor vehicle and assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury.

Phillip Johnson, 34, pled guilty to 1) two counts of possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine, 2) sale of cocaine and 3) being a habitual felon. Judge Hayes sentenced Johnson to 35-54 months in prison. Johnson's prior convictions include two counts of possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine and sale of cocaine.

Joseph Sanders, 40, pled guilty to felony larceny by removing, destroying or deactivating a component of an antishoplifting or inventory control device. Judge Hayes sentenced Sanders to 7-18 months in prison.

Jaangelo Dean, 33, pled guilty to possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine. Judge Hayes sentenced Dean to 10-21 months; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Dean must serve 150 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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