

NEWS RELEASE

Spencer B. Merriweather III
District Attorney

April 17, 2019

Trials, guilty pleas lead to drug trafficking convictions

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Mecklenburg County juries convicted two defendants of drug crimes during a trial session held April 8-15, 2019, in Superior Court. The District Attorney's Drug Team also convicted another six defendants who entered guilty pleas. The proceedings were held before The Honorable Gregory R. Hayes and The Honorable Jesse B. Caldwell, III, Superior Court Judges.

William Broom, 42, was tried for 1) trafficking in cocaine by possession and 2) trafficking in cocaine by transportation. The jury found Broom *guilty* as charged. Judge Hayes sentenced Broom to 175-222 months in prison.

James Duncan, 31, was tried for 1) possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine and 2) possession of cocaine. The jury found Duncan *guilty* of two counts of possession of cocaine. Judge Caldwell sentenced Duncan to 6-17 months in prison. He was also sentenced to an additional 6-17 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Judge Caldwell also ordered Duncan to serve 36 days in custody.

Kenneth Fields, 41, pled guilty to 1) trafficking in heroin by sale, 2) trafficking in heroin by delivery and 3) trafficking in heroin by transportation. Judge Hayes sentenced Fields to 90-120 months in prison. Between February 2017 and March 2017, an undercover Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officer purchased heroin from Fields on three separate occasions.

Tracy Edwards, 30, pled guilty to trafficking in heroin by possession. Judge Hayes sentenced Edwards to 70-93 months in prison. In June 2017, through the use of a confidential informant, detectives with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department's Vice and Narcotics Unit arranged to purchase 1.5 ounces of heroin from Edwards. When Edwards arrived to conduct the transaction, officers arrested her, searched her vehicle and located more than 30 grams of a heroin and fentanyl mixture.

Julian Clark, 24, pled guilty to 1) possession with the intent to sell or deliver marijuana and 2) felony flee to elude arrest with a motor vehicle. Judge Caldwell sentenced Clark to 5-15 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Catoine Funderburk, 24, pled guilty to possession of a schedule II controlled substance. Judge Caldwell sentenced Funderburk to 6-17 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation.

Shakwan McKnight, 28, pled guilty to misdemeanor possession of marijuana. Judge Hayes sentenced McKnight to 120 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 12 months of supervised probation.

Kwonderrious McCollough, 23, pled guilty to possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Caldwell sentenced McCollough to 45 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 12 months of supervised probation.

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.

// End //

