

# NEWS RELEASE

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**R. Andrew Murray**  
District Attorney

**April 20, 2017**

## **DA's Drug Team convicts 17**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During the week of April 10, 2017, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Team convicted 17 defendants. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Hugh B. Lewis, Superior Court Judge. The convictions were for crimes that included possessing, selling and trafficking in illegal drugs. Based on the structured sentencing laws in North Carolina, sentences ranged from probation to active prison sentences. Court was not held on April 14, 2017, in observance of Good Friday.

Among those convicted were:

Michael Lowe, 45, pled guilty to two counts of selling heroin. Lowe was sentenced to 13-25 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation. As one of the conditions of his probation, Lowe must serve 90 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail. In May and June of 2016, Lowe sold heroin to an undercover detective with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department.

Carlos Diaz, 23, pled guilty to selling cocaine. Diaz was sentenced to 10-21 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As one of the conditions of his probation, Diaz must serve 45 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

*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](http://www.charmeckda.com).*

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