District Attorney's Office State of North Carolina 26th Prosecutorial District Mecklenburg County

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## NEWS RELEASE

Spencer B. Merriweather III District Attorney

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## 7 convicted during Habitual Felon Team trial session

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team convicted seven defendants during its latest trial session. The proceedings were held during the week of April 15, 2019, in courtrooms 5110 and 5130 before The Honorable Gregory R. Hayes and The Honorable Karen Eady-Williams, Superior Court Judges. Mecklenburg County courts were closed April 19, 2019, in observance of Good Friday.

Clarence Miller, 66, was tried for 1) two counts of possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine, 2) two counts of sale of cocaine and 3) two counts of delivery of cocaine. At the end of all evidence, Miller pled guilty as charged. Judge Eady-Williams sentenced Miller to 22-36 months in prison. He was also sentenced to an additional 15-27 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 36 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Miller must enroll in drug treatment.

Tomonta Simmons, 26, was tried for felony flee to elude arrest with a motor vehicle. A jury found Simmons *guilty* of the lesser-included offense of misdemeanor flee to elude arrest. Judge Hayes sentenced Simmons to 120 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Dennis Ingram, 44, filed a motion to suppress certain evidence utilized by law enforcement, alleging violations of his legal rights. Judge Eady-Williams, who heard arguments from the defense and an Assistant District Attorney, denied the motion. Davis then pled guilty to possession of cocaine. Judge Eady-Williams sentenced Ingram to 4-14 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Ingram must enroll in drug treatment. Ingram was charged after engaging in criminal activity with his codefendant, a habitual felon.

Jeffrey Cassell, 58, pled guilty to 1) sex offense residence violation and 2) tampering or removing a satellite-based monitor. Judge Hayes sentenced Cassell to 38-58 months in prison.

Jason Evans, 25, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) felony financial transaction card fraud and 3) obtaining property by false pretenses. Judge Hayes sentenced Evans to 30-55 months in prison.

David Richardson, 41, pled guilty to assault inflicting serious bodily injury. Judge Hayes sentenced Richardson to 26-41 months in prison.

Dwayne Alexander, 44, pled guilty to two counts of possession of cocaine. Judge Hayes sentenced Alexander to 10-21 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his

successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Alexander was placed on house arrest for a period of 6 months.

Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit <u>www.charmeckda.com</u>. For updates and other information, "like" the DA's Office on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/charmeckda</u> and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.

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