

NEWS RELEASE

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Crimes Against Persons Team convicts 38 defendants

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Persons Team convicted 38 defendants in Superior Court during the week of May 1, 2017. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge.

Among those convicted and sent to prison were:

Robert Surls, 26, pled guilty to 1) second-degree rape and 2) obtaining property by false pretenses. Surls was sentenced to 90-168 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Surls must register as a sex offender for 30 years.

Bikari Rodgers, 21, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) two counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon. Rodgers was sentenced to 55-78 months in prison.

Dominique Daniels, 17, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) robbery with a dangerous weapon. Daniels was sentenced to 44-65 months in prison.

Willie Reese, 20, pled guilty to 1) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury, 2) felony breaking or entering and 3) felony larceny. Reese was sentenced to 25-42 months in prison.

Jahrique McDonald, 20, pled guilty to conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. McDonald was sentenced to 23-40 months in prison.

Edward Digh, 38, pled guilty to 1) malicious use of incendiary device to damage property and 2) two counts of obtaining property by false pretenses. Digh was sentenced to 23-55 months in prison.

Derrick Leflore, 32, pled guilty to conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. Leflore was sentenced to 20-33 months in prison.

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.

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