

NEWS RELEASE

Spencer B. Merriweather III
District Attorney

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Special Victims Team convicts 10 offenders

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Ten defendants, including sex offenders and domestic violence offenders, pled guilty in Mecklenburg County Superior Court during the weeks of April 30 and May 7, 2018. These defendants, who were prosecuted by the District Attorney's Special Victims Team, entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell and The Honorable Jeff P. Hunt, Superior Court Judges. Among those convicted were:

Timothy Jackson, 41, pled guilty to first-degree statutory sex offense. Judge Bell sentenced Jackson to 144-233 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Jackson must register as a sex offender for 30 years. In 2017, a child disclosed being sexually assaulted by Jackson. Jackson was arrested and interviewed. During the interview, he confessed to sexually abusing the child.

Cedric Thompson, 24, pled guilty to 1) discharging a weapon into a moving vehicle and 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Judge Hunt sentenced Thompson to 26-44 months in prison. In January 2018, Thompson followed his ex-girlfriend to her home. After Thompson and the victim got into an argument, the victim attempted to leave the apartment complex in a car with a friend. Thompson shot at the car as it drove away.

Joseph Starnes, 42, pled guilty to two counts of indecent liberties with a child. Judge Bell sentenced Starnes to 18-31 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Starnes must register as a sex offender for 30 years.

Devoris Clark, 28, pled guilty to felony habitual misdemeanor assault. Judge Hunt sentenced Clark to 5-15 months in prison.

Jamie Fuller, 39, pled guilty to felony habitual misdemeanor assault. Judge Hunt sentenced Fuller 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, Fuller must serve 112 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Deja Coney, 28, pled guilty to 1) driving while impaired and 2) two counts of negligent child abuse with serious physical injury. Judge Bell sentenced Coney to 12-24 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As one of the conditions of her probation, Coney must serve 30 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.

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