

# NEWS RELEASE

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**Spencer B. Merriweather III**  
District Attorney

**May 25, 2018**

## **Drug Team convicts 4 during trial session**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Team convicted four defendants during a trial session held during the week of May 21, 2018. One defendant pled guilty after a judge denied his pretrial motion, and three others pled guilty before their cases were called for trial. The proceedings were held before The Honorable Jesse B. Caldwell, III, The Honorable Nathaniel J. Poovey and The Honorable Gregory R. Hayes, Superior Court Judges.

When called for trial, Bryant Brown, 49, filed a motion to suppress evidence seized or obtained by law enforcement, alleging violations of his legal rights. Judge Hayes, who heard arguments from the defense and an Assistant District Attorney, denied Brown's motion. Brown then pled guilty as charged to 1) possession of cocaine with the intent to sell or deliver and 2) possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Hayes sentenced Brown to 15-27 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending Brown's successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Brown must serve 30 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Another defendant filed a pretrial motion to suppress evidence seized or obtained by law enforcement, alleging violations of her legal rights. Judge Hayes, who heard arguments from the defense and an Assistant District Attorney, denied the defendant's motion. The case will proceed to trial at a later date.

Leonard Givens, 36, pled guilty to 1) attempted trafficking in cocaine by possession and 2) possession of cocaine with the intent to sell or deliver. Judge Hayes sentenced Givens to 13-25 months in prison. Givens was also sentenced to an additional 8-19 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending Givens' successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. In June 2016, Charlotte-Mecklenburg police executed a search warrant at a house, where they encountered Givens. After a search of his car and his person, officers located illegal drugs, including 66 grams of cocaine, as well as nearly \$2,000 in cash.

Fredrick McCullough, 44, pled guilty to possession of cocaine. Judge Poovey sentenced McCullough to 12 months of supervised probation pursuant to N.C. General Statute § 90-96 and ordered him complete a substance abuse assessment and any recommended treatment.

Robert Smith, 28, pled guilty to possession of drug paraphernalia. Judge Caldwell sentenced Smith to 45 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail; that sentence was suspended pending Smith's successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

*Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit [www.charmeckda.com](http://www.charmeckda.com). For updates and other information, "like" the DA's Office on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/charmeckda](http://www.facebook.com/charmeckda) and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.*

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