

NEWS RELEASE

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Assailants, robbers among 49 convicted by Crimes Against Persons Team

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Over the course of four days, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Persons Team convicted 49 defendants in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. The defendants entered their guilty pleas May 27-30, 2014, in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge. Courts were closed May 26 in observance of Memorial Day.

Among the defendants who pled guilty and were sent to prison were:

Brian Chandler, 43, pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury. He was sentenced to 110-144 months in prison. In September 2012, Chandler attacked his cab driver by stabbing him multiple times. The driver jumped from the vehicle to escape. Police were able to quickly apprehend Chandler in part because he was wearing a court-ordered electronic monitor at the time of the incident.

Brandon Ferguson, 29, pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury. Ferguson was sentenced to 77-105 months in prison.

Khammone Vongphakdy, 41, pled guilty to three counts of sexual activity by a substitute parent. Vongphakdy was sentenced to 75-117 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Vongphakdy must register as a sex offender for 30 years.

Javon Turner, 21, pled guilty to robbery with a dangerous weapon. Turner was sentenced to 44-65 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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