

NEWS RELEASE

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Special Victims Team convicts 23 of sex crimes, domestic violence

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Special Victims Team convicted 23 defendants in Superior Court during the week of May 28, 2019. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5310 before The Honorable David A. Phillips, Superior Court Judge. Court was not held on May 27, 2019, in observance of Memorial Day.

Among those convicted were:

Mike Chappell, 48, pled guilty to 1) statutory sexual offense with a child, 2) statutory rape of a child and 3) indecent liberties with a child. He was sentenced to 300-420 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, he must register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

Brandon Arant, 32, pled guilty to 1) second-degree sexual exploitation of a minor and 2) indecent liberties with a child. He was sentenced to a total of 51-131 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, he must register as a sex offender for 30 years.

Jonathan Walker, 27, pled guilty to second-degree forcible rape. He was sentenced to 50-120 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, he must register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

Joao Maldonnado, 22, pled guilty to 1) assault by strangulation and 2) attempted second-degree forcible rape. He was sentenced to 44-123 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, he must register as a sex offender for 30 years.

Tyrell Brace, 22, pled guilty to 1) assault by strangulation and 2) assault inflicting serious injury. He was sentenced to 12-24 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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