

NEWS RELEASE

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Man pleads guilty to methamphetamine trafficking during jury selection

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Team called three defendants for trial during the week of June 24, 2019, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. Two other defendants entered guilty pleas before their cases were called for trial. The proceedings were held before The Honorable Forrest D. Bridges and The Honorable Karen Eady-Williams, Superior Court Judges.

The State called Mario Gonzalez, 29, for trial. Midway through jury selection, Gonzalez pled guilty to trafficking in methamphetamine by possession. Judge Bridges sentenced Gonzalez to 225-282 months in prison.

Jatarious Houston, 28, was tried for possession of cocaine. The jury found Houston *not guilty*.

Patrick Shine, 28, was tried for 1) possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine and 2) possession of cocaine on a jail premises. Due to an unexpected family emergency, one of the jurors was unable to continue deliberations. As a result, Judge Eady-Williams declared a mistrial.

The following defendants pled guilty before their cases were called for trial:

Thomas Glover, 20, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) felony flee to elude arrest with a motor vehicle. Judge Bridges sentenced Glover to 10-21 months in prison.

Tre Deas, 26, pled guilty to attempted trafficking in heroin by possession. Judge Bridges sentenced Deas to 19-32 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending Deas' successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Deas must serve 90 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

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

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