

NEWS RELEASE

Spencer B. Merriweather III
District Attorney

July 17, 2019

Crimes Against Property Team trial results in guilty verdict

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During the week of July 8, 2019, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Property Team tried two defendants before juries in Superior Court. Another defendant pled guilty before his case was called for trial. The proceedings were held before The Honorable Jeffery K. Carpenter, Superior Court Judge.

Steven Cloud, 36, was tried for felony cruelty to animals. The jury found him *guilty* of the lesser-included offense of misdemeanor cruelty to animals. Judge Carpenter sentenced Cloud to 45 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

James Govens, 49, was tried for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The jury returned a verdict of *not guilty*.

Chase McNeil, 18, pled guilty to 1) felony breaking or entering and 2) larceny after breaking or entering. He was sentenced to a total of 12-34 months in prison; those sentences were suspended pending his successful completion of 36 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, McNeil must serve 60 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.

// End //