

NEWS RELEASE

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DA's Habitual Felon Team convicts 15, sends repeat offenders to prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team convicted 15 defendants July 15-17, 2013. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in Mecklenburg County Superior Court before The Honorable Richard D. Boner, Superior Court Judge. Eleven of the defendants were sent to prison; some were not habitual felons under North Carolina law.

Among those convicted were:

Damian Towson, 36, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) being a habitual felon. Towson was sentenced to 66-91 months in prison. Towson has prior convictions that include larceny of a motor vehicle, possession of a stolen motor vehicle and possession of cocaine with intent to sell or deliver.

Alvin Lee, 38, pled guilty to habitual impaired driving. Lee was sentenced to 33-49 months in prison. Lee has previously been convicted of driving while impaired on three separate occasions.

David Ford, 43, pled guilty to 1) possession of cocaine with intent to sell or deliver and 2) conspiracy to sell or deliver cocaine. Ford was sentenced to 29-54 months in prison. Some of Ford's prior convictions include common law robbery and possession of cocaine with intent to sell or deliver.

Timothy Kiser, 45, pled guilty to 1) possession of marijuana with intent to sell or deliver and 2) possession of a schedule I controlled substance. Kiser was sentenced to 24-41 months in prison. Kiser has prior convictions for trafficking in cocaine, possession of marijuana with intent to sell or deliver and possession of a weapon in furtherance of drug trafficking.

Michael Ward, 38, pled guilty to 1) felony breaking or entering and 2) larceny after breaking or entering. Ward was sentenced to 22-46 months in prison. Ward has previous convictions that include forgery and burglary.

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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