

NEWS RELEASE

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Jury convicts man who robbed woman at gunpoint

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – A man was sentenced to 82-120 months in prison after a jury recently found him guilty of robbing a woman at gunpoint. Five other defendants entered guilty pleas. The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Violent Crimes Team prosecuted the defendants in proceedings held August 13-21, 2018, in courtrooms 5110 and 5130 before the Honorable Martin B. McGee and the Honorable Athena Brooks, Superior Court Judges.

Dejuan Evans, 28, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon, and 3) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The jury returned verdicts of *guilty* to each charge. In April of 2016, Evans, along with two other unidentified assailants, surrounded a woman while she was walking home from dinner. The men then robbed the victim at gunpoint, pushing her to the ground and assaulting her until she let go of her purse and her cellphone. The victim provided police with a physical description of her attacker, and police identified a suspect vehicle seen on nearby security camera footage. Police developed Evans as a suspect based on his connection to the suspect vehicle and the physical description provided by the victim. The victim identified Evans in a photo lineup, and when Evans was arrested, the suspect vehicle was located at his residence. Judge Brooks sentenced the defendant to 82-120 months in prison.

Deandre Alexander, 20, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) two counts of attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon, 3) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon, 4) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, and 5) possession of a stolen firearm. Before the conclusion of the trial Alexander pled guilty to each charge. In October of 2016, Alexander, along with a co-defendant, robbed three women at gunpoint in uptown Charlotte. CMPD tracked a cellphone belonging to one of the victims to a nearby location and took the suspects into custody after a brief foot chase. CMPD found property belonging to one of the victims near Alexander's arrest location. Alexander was also found in possession of a handgun that had been stolen that same night. Judge McGee sentenced the defendant to 141-206 months in prison.

Divee Cunningham, 21, pled guilty to 1) felony flee to elude arrest and 2) driving while license revoked. Judge McGee sentenced the defendant to 7-18 months in prison.

Jefferey Gilbert, 18, pled guilty to 1) attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) possession of a handgun by a minor. Judge McGee sentenced the defendant to 64-89 months in prison. That sentence was suspended, and Gilbert was placed on supervised probation for 36 months. As a special condition of supervised probation, Gilbert must complete an active sentence of 120 days in prison.

Jason Wright, 38, pled guilty to common law robbery. Judge McGee sentenced the defendant to 17-30 months in prison.

Jonathan Paul Gehrsitz, 25, pled guilty to assault inflicting serious bodily injury. Judge McGee sentenced the defendant to 11-23 months in prison.

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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