

NEWS RELEASE

Spencer B. Merriweather III
District Attorney

September 20, 2018

Drug Team convicts 28, refers 32 to treatment programs

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Team recently convicted 28 defendants in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Todd Pomeroy, Superior Court Judge. The convictions, which occurred September 4-6, 2018, were for crimes that included possessing, selling and trafficking in illegal drugs. Based on the structured sentencing laws in North Carolina, sentences ranged from probation to active prison sentences.

While the team works to hold drug sellers and traffickers accountable for their crimes, prosecutors also connect defendants facing addictions with treatment services. Since August 10, 2018, a total of 32 defendants were referred to Mecklenburg County Recovery Courts, which work to break the cycle of addiction. Twenty-four defendants were referred to District STEP Recovery Court, three defendants were referred to Superior STEP Recovery Court, one defendant was referred to Wellness Court (formerly Mental Health Treatment Court), and four defendants were referred to DWI Recovery Court.

Among the defendants who pled guilty and were sent to prison were:

Andre Sinclair, 43, pled guilty to trafficking in cocaine by possession. Judge Pomeroy sentenced Sinclair to 35-51 months in prison. In March 2017, Charlotte-Mecklenburg police went to a residence in an attempt to locate Sinclair and serve him with outstanding warrants. When Sinclair was taken into custody, officers found more than 77 grams of cocaine and more than \$1,300.

Delontae Mayfield, 23, pled guilty to 1) attempted trafficking in marijuana by transportation and 2) attempted trafficking in marijuana by possession. Judge Pomeroy sentenced Mayfield to 5-15 months in prison. He was also sentenced to an additional 5-15 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending Mayfield's successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. In October 2016, Charlotte-Mecklenburg police encountered Mayfield at Charlotte-Douglas International Airport. A narcotics dog had indicated the presence of controlled substances on bags belonging to Mayfield. The bags were searched, and as a result of this investigation, officers seized more than 58 pounds of marijuana.

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.

// End //