

NEWS RELEASE

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Jury convicts woman of extortion

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During the Crimes Against Property Team's latest trial session, a jury convicted a woman who extorted a man by threatening to publish details of their affair unless he paid her thousands of dollars. Another defendant entered a guilty plea before his case was called for trial. The proceedings were held September 16-24, 2019, before The Honorable George C. Bell and The Honorable Carla N. Archie, Superior Court Judges.

Jaime Bowen, 36, was tried for extortion. The jury found her *guilty* as charged. Judge Bell sentenced Bowen to 16-29 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. Between December 2016 and February 2017, Bowen communicated with a man with whom she previously had an extramarital relationship and threatened to share intimate details of their relationship with the public through a book she claimed to be writing. To exclude those details, Bowen demanded \$250,000 pursuant to a confidentiality agreement that she sent to the victim. After receiving these demands, the victim contacted law enforcement. Evidence admitted at trial included four other identical confidentiality agreements that contained different people's names, revealing Bowen's extortion scheme. The evidence also showed that no book existed.

Jerdarrion Black, 23, pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Judge Archie sentenced Black to 18-31 months in prison.

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