

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

October 8, 2014

Jury's verdict sends domestic violence offender to prison; 7 others plead guilty

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Domestic Violence Team convicted eight offenders during the week of September 29, 2014. The team tried two defendants and convicted seven others who pled guilty. The matters were held in courtroom 5170 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge.

Kwmaine Rainey, 25, was tried for 1) discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle in operation and 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The jury found Rainey *guilty* as charged. After the guilty verdict, Rainey chose to plead guilty to assault by strangulation, a charge that resulted from another incident involving the same victim. Judge Bell sentenced Rainey to 80-108 months in prison. In February 2014, Rainey followed his ex-girlfriend while she was driving home. As Rainey's new girlfriend drove the vehicle in which he was riding, Rainey shot at his ex-girlfriend's car. At a red light, Rainey then exited his vehicle, pointed the gun at the victim and shot into the back bumper of her car.

Dale Hedgecoe, 35, was tried for assault on a female. Judge Bell declared a mistrial when a witness testified to matters that were not appropriate for the jury to consider.

Demecho Anderson, 33, pled guilty to 1) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) felony breaking or entering. Anderson was sentenced to 30-48 months in prison.

Berdell Moser, 53, pled to assault on a female. Moser was sentenced to 75 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Niaz Khan, 36, pled guilty to 1) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and 2) assault in the presence of a minor. Khan was sentenced to 25-42 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Jeremy Lockhart, 26, pled guilty to 1) assault by pointing a gun and 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Lockhart was sentenced to 12-24 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 36 months of supervised probation.

Donald Matthews, 52, pled guilty to assault on a female. He was sentenced to 150 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 12 months of supervised probation.

Ashley Forney, 26, pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon. Forney was sentenced to 60 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 12 months of supervised probation.

Gregory Drayton, 50, pled guilty to harassing phone calls. Drayton was sentenced to 30 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 //

