

NEWS RELEASE

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Heroin traffickers among 41 convicted of drug offenses

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During the week of October 2, 2017, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Team convicted 41 defendants in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Carla N. Archie, Superior Court Judge. The convictions 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.

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

Laura Revello, 30, pled guilty to trafficking in heroin by transportation. Revello was sentenced to 90-120 months in prison.

Hugo Navarrete-Lopez, 27, pled guilty to trafficking in heroin by possession. Navarrete-Lopez was sentenced to 70-93 months in prison. In January 2017, the Department of Homeland Security and the State Bureau of Investigation contacted the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department to assist officers in an ongoing investigation of Navarrete-Lopez. After officers observed Navarrete-Lopez conduct a drug deal, he was placed under arrest. Officers then located approximately 30 grams of heroin in his pocket.

Sasha Sanmillan, 36, pled guilty to 1) trafficking in heroin by possession and 2) driving while impaired. Sanmillan was sentenced to 70-93 months in prison.

Robert Young, 34, pled guilty to 1) attempted trafficking in cocaine by transportation and 2) attempted trafficking in cocaine by possession. Young was sentenced to 24-48 months in prison.

Jeremy Thomasson, 35, pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Thomasson was sentenced to 15-27 months in prison.

Fernando Salazar, 27, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) possession of a schedule II controlled substance. Salazar was sentenced to 13-25 months in prison.

Darius Gause, 29, pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Gause was sentenced to 13-25 months in prison.

Travis Tudor, 34, pled guilty to felony possession of marijuana. Tudor was sentenced to 8-19 months in prison.

Tristan Fleming, 29, pled guilty to possession of MDMA with the intent to sell or deliver. Fleming was sentenced to 6-17 months in prison.

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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