

NEWS RELEASE

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Habitual felons among 16 sent to prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During the week of November 17, 2014, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team convicted 21 defendants. Of those convicted, 16 were sent to prison; some were not habitual felons under North Carolina law. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Yvonne Mims Evans, Superior Court Judge.

Among those convicted were:

David Simmons, 59, pled guilty to 1) common law robbery and 2) being a habitual felon. Simmons was sentenced to 76-104 months in prison. In April 2014, Simmons robbed a disabled man in the man's home. The victim was able to identify Simmons, leading to his arrest. Some of Simmons' prior convictions include possession of cocaine and being a habitual felon.

Rose Hughes, 62, pled guilty to 1) assault on a police officer with a firearm and 2) two counts of assault by pointing a gun. Hughes was sentenced to 60-84 months in prison. Some of Hughes' prior convictions include felony larceny, felony possession of stolen goods and being a habitual felon.

Willie Wright, 27, pled guilty to 1) felony fleeing to elude arrest and 2) being a habitual felon. Wright was sentenced to 58-82 months in prison. Some of Wright's prior convictions include breaking or entering, larceny and possession of a stolen motor vehicle.

Travis Dawkins, 35, pled guilty to 1) breaking or entering and 2) being a habitual felon. Dawkins was sentenced to 51-74 months in prison. Some of Dawkins' prior convictions include breaking or entering and larceny after breaking or entering.

Terrell Hawkins, 25, pled guilty to robbery with a dangerous weapon. Hawkins was sentenced to 51-74 months in prison. Some of Hawkins' prior convictions include felony possession of cocaine and sale 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.

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