## District Attorney's Office
State of North Carolina
26th Prosecutorial District
Mecklenburg County

**Spencer B. Merriweather III**
District Attorney

# NEWS RELEASE

**December 18, 2017**

### Violent Crimes Team convicts 47 defendants

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Violent Crimes Team convicted 47 defendants in Superior Court during the week of December 4, 2017. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Erwin Spainhour, Superior Court Judge. Among those convicted and sent to prison were:

Christopher Lunsford, 41, pled guilty to second-degree sex offense. Lunsford was sentenced to 100-180 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Lunsford must register as a sex offender for 30 years.

Luis Perez, 21, pled guilty to 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon and 3) larceny of a firearm. Perez was sentenced to 60-84 months in prison.

Wilmer Aleman-Ayala, 21, pled guilty to attempted second-degree rape. Aleman-Ayala was sentenced to 51-122 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Aleman-Ayala must register as a sex offender for 30 years.

Preston Whitworth, 21, pled guilty to conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. Whitworth was sentenced to 29-47 months in prison.

Maverick Blakeney, 23, pled guilty to 1) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) sale of cocaine. Blakeney was sentenced to 29-47 months in prison.

Algia Clark, 19, pled guilty to conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. Clark was sentenced to 23-40 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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This news release was posted by the District Attorney at www.charmeckda.com/news. For more information, contact the DA's Office at 704-686-0700.

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