

NEWS RELEASE

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Habitual Felon Team tries 2 defendants; another pleads guilty

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team called cases for trial during the week of December 12, 2016. The team tried two defendants, and a third defendant entered a guilty plea. The proceedings were held in courtroom 5370 before The Honorable Linwood O. Foust, Superior Court Judge.

Paul Arnold Gray, 47, was tried for 1) possession of cocaine and 2) being a habitual felon. A jury found Gray *guilty* of possession of cocaine. Upon the jury's verdict, Gray admitted his status as a habitual felon. Judge Foust sentenced Gray to 30-48 months in prison. Some of Gray's prior convictions include common law robbery, multiple counts of felony breaking or entering, identity theft and possession of cocaine.

William Bernard Cunningham, 52, was tried for 1) possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine and 2) being a habitual felon. Upon a motion from the defense following the commencement of the trial, Judge Foust declared a mistrial. The matter will be scheduled for retrial at a later date.

When called for trial, Julmar Antonio Jackson, 30, pled guilty to 1) felony fleeing to elude arrest and 2) being a habitual felon. Judge Foust sentenced Jackson to 73-100 months in prison. Some of Jackson's prior convictions include multiple counts of possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine, multiple counts of possession of cocaine and felony fleeing to elude arrest.

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.

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