

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

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NEWS RELEASE

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June 10, 2021

Jury convicts man in hit and run as court operations expand

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – As Mecklenburg County prosecutors continue to tackle the backlog of cases caused by COVID-19 court closures, the District Attorney's Violent Crimes Team has completed a trial session that resulted in a guilty verdict in the case of a serious hit and run.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought jury trials to a standstill for nearly a year. In mid-March of this year, one Superior Court trial courtroom reopened with safety protocols in place to protect all participants and jurors. Since then, Mecklenburg prosecutors have been calling cases for trial each week as they work to secure justice and hold offenders accountable. In District Court, where misdemeanors are prosecuted, there are currently two trial courtrooms open to focus on domestic violence and driving while impaired cases.

The Violent Crimes Team's trial session, which began May 24, 2021 and ended today, was held in courtroom 5370 before The Honorable George C. Bell, Superior Court Judge.

Gavin Selbourne Larkin, 36, was tried for 1) hit and run inflicting serious bodily injury and 2) reckless driving. The jury found him *guilty* as charged. Judge Bell sentenced Larkin to 15-27 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Larkin must serve 3 days in custody.

Also, during this session, Carey Kiser, 29, pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. He was sentenced to 12-24 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

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