

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

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NEWS RELEASE

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Jury convicts habitual felon of trafficking fentanyl

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – In a trial led by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team, a jury this week convicted a habitual felon of trafficking fentanyl, a dangerous drug that is responsible for a significant number of overdose deaths. The proceedings were held June 21-28, 2021, in courtroom 5370 before The Honorable Athena F. Brooks, Superior Court Judge.

Jermaine Allston, 33, was tried for 1) trafficking in fentanyl by possession, 2) trafficking in fentanyl by transportation, and 3) flee to elude arrest with a motor vehicle. A jury found Allston *guilty* as charged. After the guilty verdict, Allston admitted his status as a habitual felon. Judge Brooks sentenced Allston to 127-165 months in prison. In April 2019, Allston was seen exiting a house that was under surveillance for drug activity. An undercover Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officer observed Allston drive away from the house at a high speed in a residential area. Allston was the only person in the car. Officers in a marked patrol car attempted to stop Allston's car, but he fled recklessly, traveling at speeds more than 15 mph over the speed limit. Officers continued to track Allston as he eluded officers into Concord and then back into Charlotte. Once stopped in traffic, officers were able to apprehend Allston and end the chase. On Allston's passenger seat, police discovered 11.36 grams of fentanyl. Allston's prior convictions include sale of a schedule I controlled substance, discharging a weapon into occupied property, and possession of a controlled substance in prison/jail.

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