

# NEWS RELEASE

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March 29, 2022

## Habitual Felon Team tries 2 defendants; 3 others enter guilty pleas

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team tried two cases before juries during the week of March 21, 2022. Another three defendants entered guilty pleas. The proceedings were held in courtrooms 5370 and 5110 before The Honorable Hugh B. Lewis and The Honorable David A. Phillips, Superior Court Judges.

Joseph Jones, 31, was tried for 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) misdemeanor carrying a concealed gun, and 3) being a habitual felon. On March 24, 2022, the jury found him *guilty* as charged. Judge Lewis then sentenced Jones to 110-144 months in prison, as well as an additional 60 days in custody. In June 2020, Charlotte-Mecklenburg police responded to a report of an assault with a deadly weapon outside a store on Albemarle Road in Charlotte. As they investigated, they developed a description of the suspect vehicle, and officers soon saw a vehicle matching that description. Officers attempted to initiate a traffic stop, and a vehicle pursuit ensued until the car crashed. The driver and Jones, the passenger, fled from the vehicle and ran onto the property of a nearby elementary school. Jones was apprehended after he became entangled in some brush, and it was then that police saw a revolver in his pants pocket. The revolver was fully loaded with three live rounds and three spent casings.

Ricky Bynum, 45, was tried for 1) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. When the jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict, Judge Phillips declared a mistrial. As a result, prosecutors could not proceed with the habitual felon phase of the trial.

Bryant Dixon, 36, pled guilty to 1) felony larceny and 2) possession of a stolen motor vehicle. Judge Lewis sentenced Dixon to 11-23 months in prison.

Dontavis Dixon, 39, pled guilty to attempted felony breaking or entering. Judge Lewis sentenced Dixon to 6-17 months in prison.

Jamil Ali, 28, pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Judge Lewis sentenced Ali to 13-25 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful

completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Ali must serve 90 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

*Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit [www.charmeckda.com](http://www.charmeckda.com). For updates and other information, follow @CharMeckDA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).*

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