

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 man of attempted murder in presence of a child

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Working in three courtrooms over the course of three weeks, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Violent Crimes Team tried four cases and convicted six other defendants who entered guilty pleas. In one case, a jury found a man guilty of attempting to murder a man by repeatedly shooting him while the victim was walking his child home from a local park.

The proceedings, which began August 29, 2022 and ended on September 14, 2022, were held in courtrooms 5370, 5110, and 5150 before The Honorable George C. Bell, The Honorable Reggie E. McKnight, The Honorable Nathaniel J. Poovey, The Honorable W. Robert Bell, The Honorable Robert C. Ervin, and The Honorable Kimberly Best, Superior Court Judges. Court was closed on September 5, 2022, in observance of Labor Day.

Jamario Clinton, 26, was tried for 1) attempted first-degree murder, 2) assault with a deadly weapon with the intent to kill inflicting serious injury, and 3) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The jury found him *guilty* as charged. During sentencing, the State argued that, because the crimes were committed in the presence of a minor, an aggravating factor existed. The jury agreed and found the existence of that aggravating factor. Sentencing the defendant in the aggravated range, Judge Ervin sentenced Clinton on September 14, 2022, to 264-329 months in prison. The evidence showed that Clinton and the victim had been involved in a disagreement. In March 2021, the victim was walking his 3-year-old daughter home from the park when Clinton pulled up alongside him in a vehicle on Hovis Road in Charlotte and began shooting at the victim. Clinton fired his gun from inside his vehicle and then got out of his car and shot the victim again. Then, he drove away. Good Samaritans nearby rushed to aid the victim and care for the child. But Clinton circled back around, got out of his car, and shot the victim again at point-blank range. The victim suffered 12 gunshot wounds but survived after extensive surgeries. Prosecutors are grateful for the trial testimony of the victim and a Good Samaritan who was at the scene, as well as for the assistance of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department, the Rock Hill Police Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. We are also grateful for Freedom Fighting Missionaries and their support and advocacy for a victim of crime through the duration of this prosecution.

Darrel Patterson, 35, was tried for 1) two counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) two counts of conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. The jury found him *guilty* of one count of

robbery with a dangerous weapon. The jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict on the other robbery offense, and the jury found him *not guilty* of the conspiracy charges. Judge George C. Bell sentenced Patterson to 42-63 months in prison. A mistrial was declared in relation to the second robbery offense, however, after the verdicts, Patterson pled guilty to that charge, as well as another count of robbery with a dangerous weapon before Judge Kimberly Best. Judge Best ordered that Patterson's sentences for those charges be served concurrently with his 42-63 month sentence.

Carlos Neely, 40, was tried for 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) discharging a firearm in the city limits. The jury found him *not guilty* on both charges.

Jeffrey Boggs, 28, was tried for possession of a weapon by a prisoner. The jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict, and as a result, Judge Poovey declared a mistrial.

During jury selection for his trial, Israel Lynch, 32, pled guilty to 1) three counts of discharging a weapon into a vehicle in operation, 2) three counts of assault with a deadly weapon with the intent to kill, and 3) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Judge Ervin sentenced him to 87-117 months in prison.

Tyrek Brown, 32, was called for trial, and after one day of jury selection, Brown entered a plea of guilty to the charges of 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon, and 3) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Judge Poovey sentenced him to 69-95 months in prison.

Kavron Hart, 36, pled guilty to 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury, and 3) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Judge Poovey sentenced Hart to 67-93 months in prison.

When called for trial, Matao Kenly, 21, pled guilty to 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon, 3) second-degree kidnapping, and 4) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Judge Ervin sentenced him to 59-83 months in prison.

Jerard McCleary, 53, pled guilty to attempted common law robbery. Judge Ervin sentenced him to 16-29 months in prison.

Brayon Rhodes, 25, pled guilty to 1) common law robbery and 2) felonious restraint. The Honorable W. Robert Bell sentenced Rhodes to 15-27 months in prison.

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