

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Jury convicts habitual felon of robbery; 6 others plead guilty**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – A Mecklenburg County jury convicted a habitual felon of robbery and conspiracy offenses in a trial session led by the District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team during the week of January 30, 2023. Another six defendants entered guilty pleas. The proceedings were held before The Honorable Reggie E. McKnight, The Honorable Matthew J. Osman, and The Honorable Louis A. Trosch, Jr., Superior Court Judges.

Lenell Gales, 53, was tried for 1) common law robbery, 2) conspiracy to commit common law robbery, and 3) being a habitual felon. The jury found him *guilty* of the robbery and conspiracy offenses. Following the jury's verdict, Gales admitted his status as a habitual felon. Judge McKnight then sentenced him to 117-153 months in prison. In April 2020, Gales and an unknown co-conspirator entered a convenience store on Tyvola Road in Charlotte. While Gales acted as the lookout, the other suspect went behind the store counter and took several cartons of cigarettes. As that suspect attempted to leave, he was confronted by two employees. Gales intervened and grabbed one of the employees to help his accomplice escape the store with the cigarettes. Gales' accomplice struck one employee in her face before exiting, and when that employee tried to stop the suspects from leaving in their car, Gales shoved her twice before getting in the driver's seat and driving away. Gales' prior convictions include larceny from the person, strong arm robbery, common law robbery, and conspiracy to commit robbery.

Codi Schiene, 31, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) possession of a stolen firearm, and 3) being a habitual felon. Judge Osman sentenced Schiene to 76-104 months in prison.

Malcolm Reynolds, 30, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) being a habitual felon. Judge McKnight sentenced him to 75-102 months in prison.

Charles Audrey, 43, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) discharging a weapon into occupied property. Judge McKnight sentenced him to 30-48 months in prison.

Claude Grant, 44, pled guilty to trafficking in heroin by transportation. He will be sentenced at a later date.

Derrick Evans, 35, pled guilty to two counts of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. He will be sentenced at a later date.

Calvin Robinson, 43, was scheduled for trial during this session, however, his trial was not reached. The following week, he pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. He will be sentenced at a later date.

*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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