District Attorney's Office

State of North Carolina
26th Prosecutorial District
Mecklenburg County

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NEWS RELEASE

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Testimonies from 5 child survivors of sexual abuse lead to 50-year sentence for abuser

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Five girls between the ages of 12 and 18 took the stand this month, bravely facing down the man who sexually assaulted them. Their testimonies resulted in a jury finding him guilty of all charges, and he will now spend at least 50 years in prison. The trial session, which was led by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Felony Special Victims Team, was held during the weeks of April 3 and April 10, 2023, before The Honorable Carla N. Archie, The Honorable Donald R. Cureton, Jr., and The Honorable David H. Strickland, Superior Court Judges. Another defendant was tried before a jury, and four others entered guilty pleas.

Angel Mario Guzman-Lobo, 66, was tried for 1) four counts of statutory sexual offense with a child by an adult and 2) seven counts of indecent liberties with a child. On April 14, 2023, the jury found him *guilty* as charged. Judge Archie then sentenced Guzman-Lobo to a total of 600-840 months in prison.

From 2013 to 2017, Guzman-Lobo befriended multiple Charlotte families that had young girls living in their homes. He befriended these families through his own family members or by meeting them at church. Guzman-Lobo told the families he needed a place to sleep, and they allowed him to sleep in the common areas of their homes, usually on the couch. While he stayed at their residences, Guzman-Lobo sexually assaulted the girls while their parents or other adults were in other rooms within the home. In 2017, one of the girls reported to her mother that Guzman-Lobo had sexually assaulted her. When interviewed by Charlotte-Mecklenburg police, Guzman-Lobo confessed to crimes involving three girls in Charlotte. After he was arrested, police distributed a news release to notify the public of Guzman-Lobo's charges. It was then that another two families came forward to report that their daughters also disclosed sexual abuse by Guzman-Lobo. The girls were between the ages of 7 and 12 years old at the time of the abuse. All five survivors testified at trial, and the District Attorney's Office commends them all for showing immense courage at such a young age.

This conviction comes as the District Attorney's Office and local advocates recognize April as Child Abuse Prevention Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Everyone – whether you are a parent or not – can help prevent the physical and sexual abuse of children. Learn how at meck4kids.org. Parents and caregivers can also take steps to educate their children about body safety, including teaching children the correct anatomical names for all body parts and

teaching them about the difference between secrets and surprises. <u>Click here</u> to find tips from our partners at Pat's Place Child Advocacy Center.

Also during the trial session, Tyler Richardson, 30, was tried for 1) assault on a female and 2) assault by strangulation. The jury found him *not quilty*.

Ryan Hill, 33, pled guilty to 1) felony habitual misdemeanor assault and 2) misdemeanor stalking. Judge Strickland sentenced him to 8-19 months in prison. That sentence is to be served concurrently with the sentence he is serving for a conviction in Cabarrus County.

Stevenson Walls, 37, pled guilty to assault on a female. Judge Archie sentenced Walls to 75 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Christopher Rodgers, 28, pled guilty to 1) misdemeanor violation of a domestic violence protective order, 2) assault on a female, and 3) battery of an unborn child. Judge Archie sentenced Rodgers to 60 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Langston Campbell, 26, pled guilty to felonious restraint. Judge Archie sentenced Campbell to 13-25 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

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