

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Felony Crimes Team convicts 2 at trial; 3 others plead guilty

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Working in three courtrooms over the course of the last week, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Felony Crimes Team tried three cases and convicted two other defendants who entered guilty pleas. In one case, a jury found a man guilty of possessing and transporting over ten pounds of cocaine.

The proceedings, which began December 4, 2023, were held in courtrooms 5370, 5110, and 5130 before The Honorable Matt Osman, The Honorable Carla Archie, and The Honorable Donnie Hoover, Superior Court Judges.

Christopher Dobbins, 44, was tried for two counts of trafficking in cocaine. A jury found him *guilty*, and Judge Osman sentenced Dobbins to 175-222 months in prison. On April 13, 2021, Charlotte-Mecklenburg police received information that a package containing a large quantity of narcotics would be delivered by FedEx to an address on Monroe Road the following day. Officers set up surveillance and observed the defendant drive around the target address for two hours, conducting his own countersurveillance. Dobbins waited for the FedEx driver to arrive, followed her out of the shopping center, and eventually retrieved the package. Officers followed the defendant and conducted a traffic stop. Officers recovered the package, which contained five bricks of cocaine, from the defendant's car.

Joel Vargas-Meza, 34, was tried for trafficking in methamphetamine. After all of the evidence was presented to the jury, Vargas-Meza pled *guilty*. Judge Archie sentenced Vargas-Meza to 225-282 months in prison.

Josselyn Orellana, 30, pled *guilty* to trafficking in heroin. Judge Archie sentenced Orellana to 90-120 months in prison.

Beau Anderson, 46, was tried for driving while impaired. Anderson exercised his right to a bench trial. Judge Hoover found him *guilty*, and sentenced Anderson to 30 days in jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 12 months of unsupervised probation.

Jerry Tarver, 32, pled *guilty* to possessing a firearm with an altered serial number. Judge Hoover sentenced Tarver to 8-19 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

*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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